The First Hundred Years of The American Baptist Publication Society

Daniel Gurden Stevens

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The
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of
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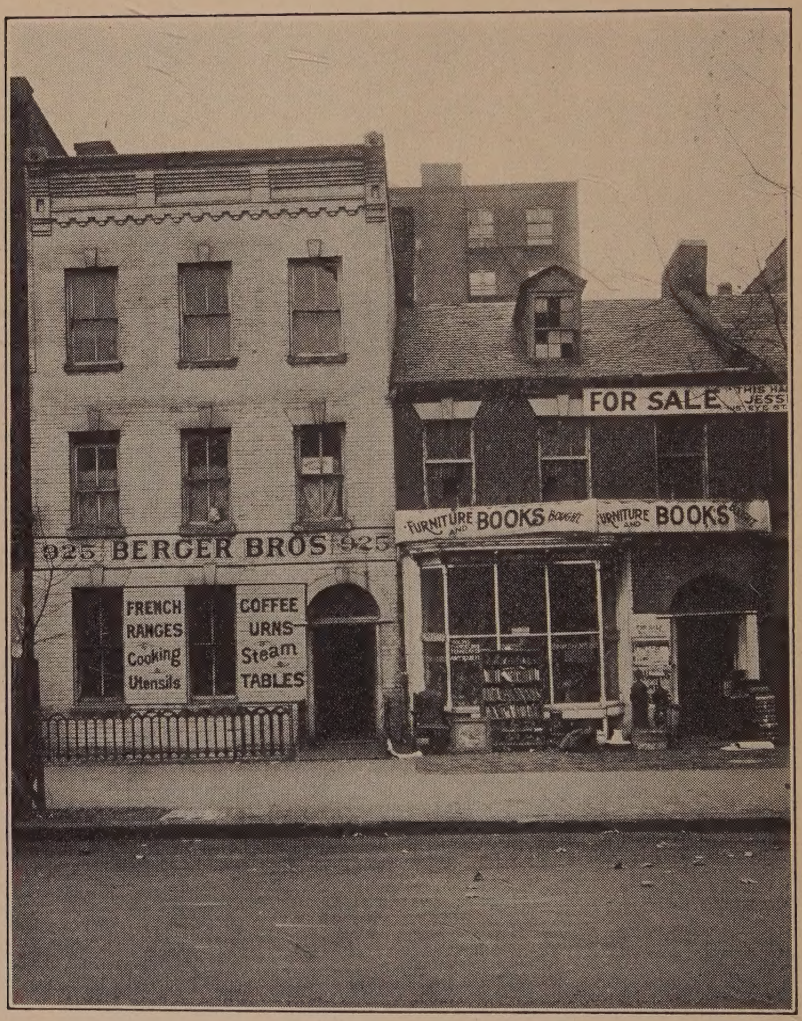

BIRTHPLACE OF THE SOCIETY AND
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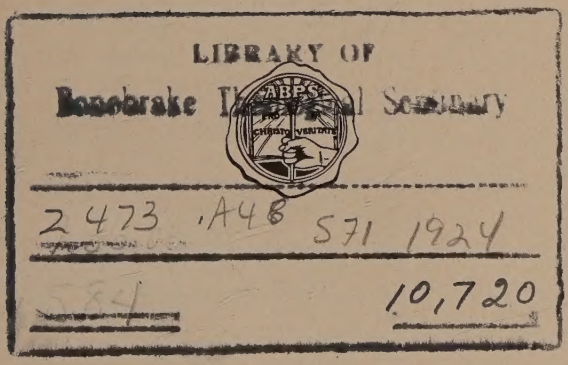
The FIRST HUNDRED YEARS *of* THE AMERICAN BAPTIST PUBLICATION SOCIETY

By
DANIEL GURDEN STEVENS, PH. D.



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PREFACE

THIS brief story of the first century of the Publication Society has a mission of its own. It is not put forth as a substitute for the larger history, "Pioneers of Light," prepared by Dr. and Mrs. Lemuel Call Barnes and Dr. E. M. Stephenson, nor yet as a summary of that volume.

Necessarily the circulation of the larger work was limited; the edition was relatively small, and was distributed within narrow circles. It was felt that a shorter history should be prepared, which could be more widely distributed, so that pastors and Sunday-school workers should have in their hands the story of the national organization which in a very peculiar sense is the *pastors'* Society, the *Sunday-school* Society.

For this reason the chapters of this little book were written.

The author has availed himself, not only of the material presented in "Pioneers of Light" mentioned above and in the annals of the first fifty years of the Society assembled by J. Newton Brown, D. D., and published by the Society in 1856, but has searched the original records in his keeping as the Recording Secretary of the Board of Managers. The annals of the Society's first century brought together by E. M. Stephenson are incorporated here, together with the roster of names constructed by him, and published in "Pioneers of Light." The opportunity has been used to correct some errors that unfortunately existed in the lists as they were first printed.

Naturally in the limited space at the writer's disposal it has been impossible to develop all portions of the story as fully as

might be desired. Especially is this true of the biographical side of the Society's history. The book could not be made a portrait-gallery of the century. With but few exceptions the illustrations show the Society's equipment and headquarters personnel of today. The text will carry the reader through the hundred years; the pictures will take him into the offices and the other workrooms in Philadelphia and show him the persons and the machinery in The Roger Williams and The Judson Press Buildings.

To err is human, the author knows full well. To forgive is divine. If at any point he seems to do injustice, he begs forbearance, for the error is not of intent.

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I

TRACTS AND VISIONS

1824—1840

"How far that little candle throws his beams!"—*Shakespeare.*

"The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations."—*Revelation.*

"There is reason to believe that the Head of the Church designs that much shall be done by the instrumentality of tracts in converting the world."—*Report of 1829.*

THE STAR.

WASHINGTON CITY,

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1824.

For the Columbian Star.

BAPTIST TRACT SOCIETY,

MR. EDITOR,

My attention was seriously arrested by your suggestions in the last number of the Star, relative to the formation of a Baptist Tract Society. The subject may be somewhat novel to our denomination, but cannot fail to meet the decided approbation of all who wish well to the interests of Christianity.

The American formerly the New-England, Tract Society, has been signally blest in its laudable efforts; and its prospects of extended usefulness are highly encouraging.

The pious and devoted agent of that valuable Institution is unwearied in his labours to increase its funds, and to give an extensive circulation to the million heralds of truth, which by these funds are furnished. This Society has, according to the last Report, 92 Depositories; 67 of which are east and north of Pennsylvania. The large states, Virginia, Kentucky and South Carolina, in which the Baptists are exceedingly numerous, contain but six Depositories. The states, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, contain none. It may be truly said, that nearly all the Baptist population south of the Potomac and west of New-York are wholly destitute of Evangelical Tracts. Many have not heard that there is such an association as a Tract Society—others are prevented from purchasing and circulating Tracts, by their distance from the general or subordinate Depositories.

It is unnecessary to use any argument to prove the usefulness of Tracts. Containing nothing sectarian, they convey in a cheap form and in a plain style, the great truths which are revealed in that gospel, "worthy of all acceptation." In the accounts of revivals, we see numerous instances, where a tract of six or eight pages was made the happy instrument of introducing the solemn realities of religion to some poor sinner. The most vicious and abandoned outcasts of society have frequently been led, by reading a tract, to think on their ways, and return to God. If the circulation of Tracts, then, be an efficient means of doing good, who would refuse to engage in the work? The eastern states can be amply supplied by their numerous societies,—but how shall the wants of the southern and western states be gratified? Where shall the work begin? Who will go forward? Let a Society be soon formed in this city to make a commencement—Let a few numbers of evangelical tracts be immediately published—Let agents be appointed in different places in the neighbouring states, who shall form auxiliary Societies and collect funds for publishing more tracts. The expense will be trifling compared with the probable good which must be the unavoidable result, if the concerns of the society should be rightly conducted.

If it be suggested that the formation of a Society here will have a tendency to limit and injure the influence of the American Society—We may answer that the contrary will be the probable effect. The liberal and enlightened men who compose that large Society, cannot look with a jealous eye on any effort to extend the knowledge of Christ among the destitute. If their Tracts do not find their way into our denomination, it is time that we should do something to effect what they do not. It is time for the Baptists to show themselves equal to other denominations in evangelical effort. And, Sir, as numbers of respectable gentlemen are ready to co-operate in the good work, permit me to hope that a Tract Society will soon be set in operation, under the direction of judicious men, and governed by such regulations as shall foretoken good to thousands.

O.

ARTICLE IN "THE COLUMBIAN STAR"

SHOWING THE GENERAL TRACT SOCIETY WAS ADVOCATED IN VIEW OF UNMET NEEDS

I

The Society was born out of the life of the Baptist denomination.

An Era of Creative Impulse

Creative impulse ran strong in the denomination's life at the time of the Society's birth. Three great national Societies still existing in strength were brought into being within two decades—the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society in 1814, The American Baptist Publication Society in 1824, and The American Baptist Home Mission Society in 1832. Evidently the first third of the nineteenth century was a period when Baptist thought issued into purpose and was both far-reaching in vision and practical in designing and shaping instruments to the fulfilment of great plans.

Baptists were not alone at that time in being so deeply stirred to think and plan and build. Other denominations also were getting the advantages of an atmosphere, and were feeling the touch of a spirit, that widened the outlook of the mind and the sympathies of the heart and inspired the formation of agencies to perform the larger tasks of a progress, which was to make the century remarkable as the morning of the modern missionary era.

Mental and Spiritual Ferments

Enlivening influences came from the field of scientific study and from the world of politics, national and international. Already triumphs had been won, anticipations, first-fruits, of greater triumphs to come, for the era was to stand out above all the preceding ages as the century of science. In the United States education was being democratized; the system of com-

mon schools was becoming nation-wide. On the American continent, north and south, political power was passing into the hands of the people. It could not but be felt that there were goals ahead, and goals worth while for self and for humanity, which might be reached more quickly and surely if only plans and means could be found adapted to the great common cause. The mental stimulus from scientific progress and the spiritual quickening imparted by growing appreciation of the rights and possibilities of the common man, at home and in all countries, and by acceptance of the idea of education as necessary to enable men to find themselves and to use themselves in wisdom and in strength, had their part in stirring Baptists and other Christians to the achievement of epoch-making advances.

The Missionary Spirit

But in the ferments that roused the religious world of the time chief place must be given to the missionary idea. This united in itself spiritual and mental elements of quickening; it enlarged the thoughts of Christians far beyond the confines of neighborhood and nation, and gave visions of the progress of all peoples into the light and liberty of citizenship in the kingdom of heaven. Carey had gone to India two decades before; now Judson was in Burma, and new Acts of the Apostles were being written in chapters of life that appealed and challenged to larger and more adequate interpretation of Christ's gospel of salvation and service. And not alone in Asia, but in the homeland, in growing cities and in the regions of the West where the possibilities of human ill or good were wide as the unfilled spaces and as deep as the hearts of men and women, the missionary spirit had its field of work that called for the finest of intelligence and of devotion. Therefore, as in England, so in the United States the churches were roused to grow hands and feet more adequate for the newly discovered and rapidly developing needs of service.

BAPTIST GENERAL TRACT SOCIETY.

On Wednesday evening, Feb. 25, a meeting was held, pursuant to notice, for the purpose of forming a Baptist Tract Society. After prayer, by the Rev. Luther Rice, the Rev. Dr. Staughton was appointed Chairman, and Mr. James D. Knowles, Secretary.

It was then resolved, That a Tract Society be formed. A Constitution was proposed, and after some amendments, was adopted, as follows:

CONSTITUTION.

ART. 1. The name of this Society shall be, "*The Baptist General Tract Society.*" Its sole object shall be to disseminate evangelical truth, and to inculcate sound morals, by the distribution of tracts.

ART. 2. Any person may become a member of this Society, by paying the sum of one dollar annually. The payment of ten dollars at one time, shall constitute a person a member for life.

ART. 3. There shall be an annual meeting of the Society, on the last Wednesday in February, when the following officers shall be chosen, by ballot, viz.: A President, Vice-President, Agent, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and a Board of Directors, consisting of the President, Vice-President, Agent, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall be Directors in consequence of their office, and seven members of the Society. Five Directors shall constitute a quorum for business. The Board shall have power to supply any vacancy that may occur in its own body.

ART. 4. The Directors shall superintend the publication and distribution of such tracts, as they shall approve; the appointment of subordinate agents; the establishment of depositories, the formation of auxiliary societies, &c. They shall hold frequent meetings, under such regulations as they may adopt, in conformity with the general provisions of this Constitution. They shall appoint the place and the hour, for the annual meeting of the Society; and may, if they think proper, make arrangements for an annual sermon, or public addresses, and a collection for the benefit of the Society. The Directors and the Treasurer shall make an annual report of their proceedings.

ART. 5. The Agent shall conduct the correspondence of the Society, and shall carry into effect the measures adopted by the Board of Directors.

ART. 6. The Recording Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the Board of Directors and of the Society. He shall receive all monies, keep a record of them, and pay them over to the Treasurer.

ART. 7. Every member shall be entitled to receive three-fourths of the amount of his subscription in tracts at cost. Auxiliary Societies shall be entitled to the same privilege.

ART. 8. Any person, by paying twenty-five dollars, at one time, shall be a Director for life. The Presidents of Auxiliary Societies shall be, ex officio, members of the Board of Directors.

ART. 9. The President shall call a meeting of the Society, at the request of a majority of the Board of Directors.

ART. 10. Any alterations of this Constitution may be made at an annual meeting, by the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

The following officers were then chosen:

Rev. O. B. Brown, *President.*
Rev. John Bryce, *Vice-President.*
Mr. George Wood, *Agent.*
Mr. Isaac G. Hutton, *Recording Sec'y.*
Rev. Luther Rice, *Treasurer.*

Rev. Dr. Staughton,
Samuel W. Lynd,
Messrs. Joseph Gibson,
Joseph Thaw,
Enoch Reynolds,
Reuben Johnson,
James D. Knowles,
} *Directors.*

Ordered, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Star.

Adjourned. Prayer by Dr. Staughton.

BAPTIST GENERAL TRACT SOCIETY.

A letter to the Editor of the Star, from a gentleman in Providence, Rhode-Island, says:

"I have noticed, in the last Columbian Star, an article on the subject of a Baptist Tract Society. It occurred to me at once that such an association would prove important to our denomination, and to the cause of religion in general; for, however we may wish men to become *Baptists*, we wish all to become *evangelical Christians*.—The American Tract Society has been long in operation, and has done immense good to the cause. Another Society in Boston, more immediately under the control of our Baptist friends, has lately been chartered. But these should not prevent the establishment of the one proposed in your paper, to be more central, and to extend its operations more particularly to the southern and western parts of the Union. I think that some assistance may be expected from this quarter."

ORIGINAL ACCOUNT OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE BAPTIST GENERAL TRACT SOCIETY

Organization a Practical Outcome

Thus organization was a conspicuous feature in the field of religion in the early decades of the nineteenth century. Missionary activities of Christians in England and America made necessary the development of institutions as machinery to accomplish missionary purposes. The Baptists in the United States had their own noble share in this movement. Not only their response to Adoniram Judson in Burma, but also their practical answer to home needs in the home country—an answer already in progress before Judson sailed, but made much more willing and vigorous and well planned under the power of his call for support in the world-wide enterprise—brought to pass a multiplicity of organizations, local, State, and national, many of which remain as effective and honored instrumentalities of the churches today. Among these came into being the Society which, having had a continuous history of a century, has borne for eighty years, with some slight variations, the name " The American Baptist Publication Society."

Other Denominations Responsive

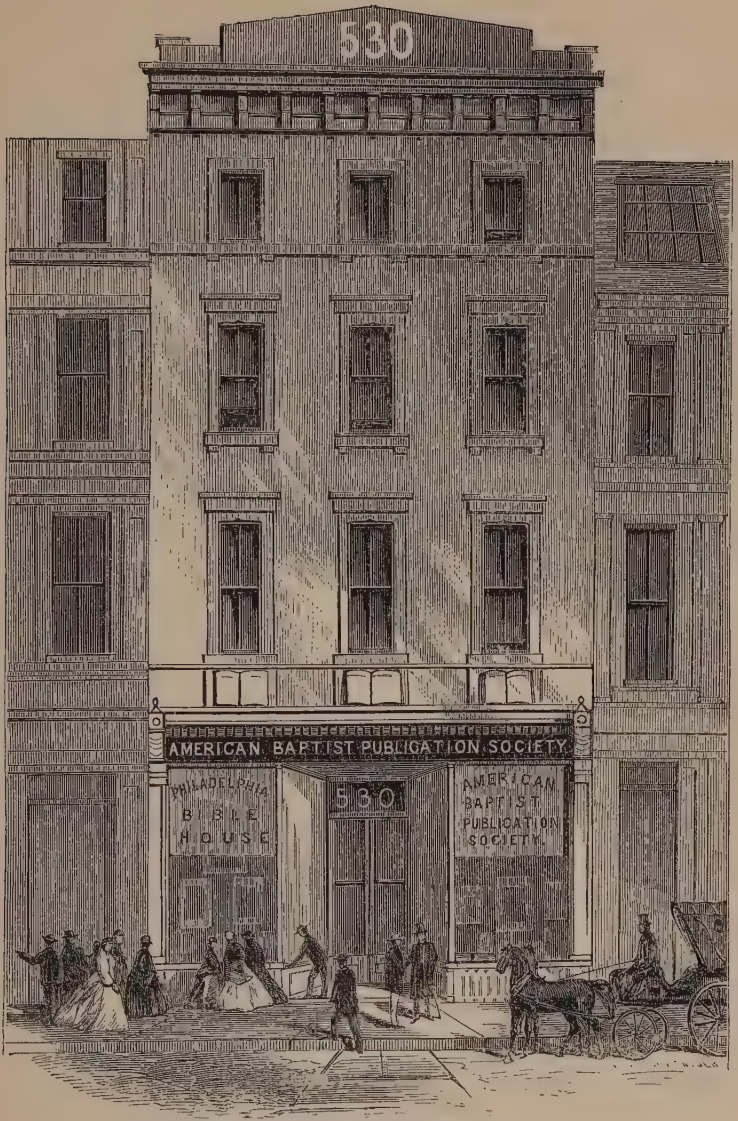
Several prominent denominational publishing houses had their origin in the movement just described. Baptists came to feel the need for such an agency of their own. To be sure, works by Baptists for Baptists were issued by some presses. Books appeared. Tracts were issued. But there was no Baptist house to take the Baptist publishing business in hand. More and more it came to be recognized that such an institution should be had if the Baptist part in Christian work was to be done in any adequate way. Baptists believed their part was real and important. Denominational consciousness, denominational purpose, interpreting itself in terms of earnest loyalty to Christ and the truth, as the legend on the Society's seal affirms to this day, called the Society into being and gave it a growing commission.

A Work of Men of Vision

There was no concerted movement on the part of a multitude that bore this fruit. In this case, as in so many others, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." There were men of vision, who saw farther and more clearly than their fellows, who dreamed and planned, singly at first, and then in small groups, men who brought the creation of their dreams and visions and practical plans before the multitude and supported it by their prayerful labors till the multitude at last saw the worth of what was before them and gave it their own approval and an opportunity to serve them and their cause.

The Parable of Samuel Cornelius

To do perfect justice to all who had part in inventing and inaugurating the new thing of good is not easy. Some men, and not a few women too, whose names have been preserved, and others of whom record has been lost, helped to shape the proposal and to give it weight. No man who writes with discriminating justice the story of the great movement we call the Protestant Reformation, would leave out Martin Luther; but no man who writes that story with just discrimination, would picture Martin Luther as the all in all of human origin and driving force and consummation of that movement. Doubtless every one who now thinks of the beginnings of the Publication Society brings to mind Samuel Cornelius and his bell-crowned hat, out of which accidentally fell a number of tracts when he removed the head-covering at a little meeting called to consider the formation of a Baptist Tract Society. A suggestive figure, that man! A prophetic picture! A kind of perambulating tract depository, a forerunner of the Baptist missionary colporter distributing Baptist literature, and by conversation, sermon, and Bible teaching winning converts, organizing groups of believers, and establishing new centers of Christian life in town and country! Mr. Cornelius is to us



HEADQUARTERS OF THE SOCIETY
AT 530 ARCH STREET, PHILADELPHIA
1850-1876

a parable. Small wonder that an artist's eye has seen coming out of that tall hat the whole history of the Society's work of publication and distribution as it has been unfolded in the processes of a century's developments, and that the author of the pageant celebrating attainment of the one hundred years of service placed Mr. Cornelius and his hat in the forefront of conspicuousness in the first episode. Honor, large honor to Mr. Cornelius, sensible, practical, doing determinedly in his limited way what he wanted done in a big, grand way. But the idea was not his sole possession; he was not the single source. He was a type, a picturesque, appealing type, of those with whom he shared the conception and with whom he wrought to bring it to pass.

The Birthplace of the Idea

The Society was organized on February 25, 1824. Back of the deed of the few men who met to take this action there was conversation, correspondence, and the slow upbuilding of conviction and purpose during a period of years. A writer in *The Columbian Star* of February 21, 1824, might say with truth that the idea of such a Society "may be somewhat novel to our denomination," but it was not at all novel to members of a group who were interested in promoting religious intelligence in the churches and in ensuring Baptist advance at home and abroad.

The Society was born in Washington, but has had its home in Philadelphia for ninety-eight years, and it is worth while to note that in Philadelphia originated the idea which had fruition in the organization.

The origins of the Society were most intimately connected with the educational work in the denomination which was quickened to vigor by the return of Luther Rice, the companion of Adoniram Judson, "to try to engage American Baptists in missionary undertakings." Rice conceived his God-given commission in the largest possible terms. He

aimed, not merely to secure funds to support Judson and other workers, but to develop a trained leadership and to diffuse missionary intelligence. To this end educational institutions were necessary. Therefore, one of the first projects of the General Convention of the Baptist Denomination was to establish a "Classical and Theological Seminary." Philadelphia, in 1818, became the temporary location of this school, which in 1820 was removed to Washington and became a department of the newly established Columbian College.

But before the removal, the possibility of establishing a Baptist tract society in Philadelphia was a subject of lively discussion by Luther Rice, Principal William Staughton, Professor Irah Chase, and students in the Seminary, who later became active in organizing and conducting the Society formed in Washington. This discussion arose, it seems, out of a very practical consideration. John S. Meehan was the printer for the Triennial Convention; he was also the teacher of a class in the Sansom Street Sunday School, "and almost every month had a difficulty in dealing out tracts to the children, on account of their anti-Baptist tendencies. No Baptist tracts were then printed." A practical man, dealing with print, he

determined to propose the establishment of a Baptist Tract Society in Philadelphia, with the intention of making it a General Society. In compliance with this design, I had two tracts set in type, as the first publications to be submitted to the Society when formed. . . The young brethren at the Theological Institution in Philadelphia, under the care of Doctor Staughton and the Rev. Mr. Chase, knew of the design, and gave it their sanction. . . The subject was not matured in Philadelphia, owing to the determination of the Baptist Convention (in April, 1820) to found a College and Theological Seminary in Washington, and to remove the publications of the Board of Missions and the Board itself to Washington. When we arrived in Washington, I proposed to found the General Tract Society here. But it was not deemed advisable at the time to do so, as all the effective Baptist force here was engaged energetically in advancing the prosperity of the College, and the publication of *The Columbian Star,* a weekly religious paper, and the *Latter Day Luminary,* a magazine which was originated in Philadelphia in the year 1818, as the official publication of the Board of Missions under the authority of the General Convention.

THE OLD "1420"

THE SOCIETY'S FIRST BUILDING AT 1420 CHESTNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA

Although the establishment of a Baptist Tract Society was not matured in Philadelphia, it was originated there in its design, and founded on the necessity existing for such an institution.

The Society Organized

When the Seminary was removed to Washington there were many interests, which, as Mr. Meehan intimates in his letter, demanded one's utmost energies. But the idea of a tract society would not die. There was always some one who felt the pressure of the need, and who spoke out. Finally, Samuel Cornelius, with his bell-crowned hat as a depository of tracts, accidentally fired the imagination of the Rev. Noah Davis, and in February, 1824, that highly gifted young minister, who had been ordained only two months, wrote a letter to James D. Knowles, Editor of *The Columbian Star,* proposing that a tract society be got up in Washington, " to hold the same place among Baptists that the American Tract Society [of Boston] does among the Congregationalists." Mr. Knowles and Mr. George Wood had " much conversation." A practical difficulty was seen. Who would be general agent to bear the burden of the undertaking? Everybody the two friends could think of was too busy already—except Mr. Wood himself; and he had dyspepsia. So there was a delay of a week. Then Wood consented, and Mr. Knowles put a notice in the *Star,* calling a meeting of those interested in the project, and on Wednesday evening, February 25, 1824, the Baptist General Tract Society came into existence. A constitution already drawn up by Mr. Knowles was offered, amended, and accepted, and officers were elected for the ensuing year.

Removal to Philadelphia

When news of this action had spread, approval was quick to come, especially from the South. A large part of the early contributions to the Society's work came from Southern sources. But the North also was responsive with welcome and aid. And the stern requirements of business success, not lack

of hospitality, soon forced the new organization to make its headquarters where the great idea was first formed and nursed against the hour of its embodiment. Luther Rice had wanted "to make Washington a Baptist center of influence." The Baptist General Tract Society was a part of a scheme of centralization fostered by him and many others. Questions of finance were troublesome, however. In ten months 86,500 copies of nineteen tracts were printed. But these tracts were not stereotyped. The editions were soon exhausted. It was determined to make plates of all tracts. For this the tracts must be sent to Philadelphia; then the plates were shipped to Washington, where the printing was done, after which nearly one-half of the output of the press had to be sent to Philadelphia for shipment to Southern centers. Obviously Washington hampered the Society's usefulness. Mr. Wood, wise man of business, at the end of the first year proposed removal to Philadelphia. Luther Rice successfully opposed him. Another year of embarrassing circumstances followed. Rice still held firm. But at last the persistence and self-sacrifice of George Wood (who, as a last resort, resigned as General Agent to force the issue) and the persuasive wisdom of Noah Davis prevailed, and on November 14, 1826, the Society voted that the seat of operations should be in Philadelphia.

Early Homes

The day of small things was not immediately over, however; it proved to be a long, trying day. Headquarters were established in a second-story room fifteen feet square on Front Street, a few doors below Market Street. If that first home in Philadelphia, which cost the Society $100 a year and was retained for eight months, seems humble, what shall be thought of the second—merely a few shelves in the bookstore of David Clark, No. 118 North Fourth Street? Then, slowly, came more generous room. After a year and a half a store on the northwest corner of Fifth and North Streets was occupied, at

THE CROZER BUILDING

At 1420 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia

a rental of $200. Four years later, a longer stay, of eleven years, was begun in a store at No. 31 South Fourth Street, rental $380. Again a larger rental, $550, was assumed when in 1844 a house at No. 31 North Sixth Street was taken as a depository. This served for six years, when the insufficient accommodations could no longer be endured. Then, for the first time the Society, in April, 1850, entered a home of its own, at 118 Arch Street.

This little chapter of stays and removals is given to suggest a story of years of struggle against poverty and weakness and into enlarging strength and usefulness.

Means of Support and of Service

Pains were taken to keep in direct touch with the churches. Business reasons and considerations of service would demand this. But the result was also to feel the pulse and know the mind of the denomination. Means of communication with the Society's constituency, feeders of its treasury, and promoters of tract distribution were:

1. Branch societies, composed of both men and women. From the first the wisdom of enlisting the aid of the women was recognized and was vindicated in loyalty which steadily gave material aid and came to the fore with welcome generosity in some severe crises. Of the twenty-five persons who responded to the general call to organize the Society in 1824, seven were women. The contribution of a woman, Mrs. Gillison, of Philadelphia, who afterward became Mrs. Heman Lincoln, secured the conditional gift of $500 offered by Nathaniel R. Cobb, of Boston, soon after the removal of the Society's headquarters to Philadelphia. One of the first legacies, of $20, was from a woman in Connecticut who wished "to constitute her minister and her physician life-members."

In 1829, it was recorded that nearly all of the newly organized auxiliary Societies "give one-half, or more properly two-fifths, of their funds as a donation to aid in the support and

enlargement of the General Society." These organizations were then regarded as of first-class importance; to them it was felt the Society must look for the needed support. In 1830 there were 322 of these auxiliaries. But the hope of their serviceableness proved vain for the most part. Many of them had a very brief existence—never even reached their second summer. Very few were really efficient. Time proved that it was better to approach the denomination through the churches, the Associations, and the State Conventions.

2. Depositories, at points near and remote in the Society's territory, sometimes owned and supported by the Society, sometimes wholly maintained by individuals or by auxiliary societies; often simply deposits of tracts in churches. Doubtless these were a necessary institution in those early days, but most frequently they were an occasion of expense rather than a source of income, and hence the maintenance of them was often a question sorely debated, and not less so in later years when for the many depositories (39 in 1833, 53 in 1836) the Society adopted a system of a few branch houses.

3. A paper; at first *The Baptist Tract Magazine,* first issued in 1837 as a monthly, to contain 24 pages, at fifty cents a year. Projected for profit, it was often run at a loss. In 1837, it was replaced by a folio monthly, called simply our *Monthly Paper,* which gave way a year later to *The Baptist Record* published semimonthly. These changes were not indicative of desperate seeking to find a way of making the paper pay, although in 1839 that result was actually achieved, for a time at least; they rather showed an enlargement of the ideas of service which the Society was coming to adopt, as will be shown in a later chapter.

4. Traveling agents. From the first, there were, of course, agents in charge of the depositories, and in addition a number of district agents; doubtless, these men did not depend upon any income from such sources for their living. To be sure, provision was made in 1828 that agents of depositories should

THE ROGER WILLIAMS BUILDING

1701-1703 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia

have reasonable compensation as the Board might decide. But in 1830, previous to the death of Noah Davis, the Society employed traveling agents " for the purpose of forming new Auxiliaries, establishing Depositories, collecting funds, and of promoting in every laudable way the interest of the Society." Six men were listed in such positions in 1833. But most of them gave only part time to the work. In 1836 the statement was made that six agents were employed in different districts for a time equivalent to the steady service of one man for two years. The service of such representatives visiting churches and denominational gatherings proved then and later indispensable.

Obviously the Society was feeling its way, not only to develop its work, but to present the claims of that work with greatest effectiveness to the churches.

Response to the Denomination's Needs

Born out of the denomination's life, it has ever been responsive to the denomination's needs.

For the first sixteen years the Society was an agency for the publication and distribution of tracts. In that period it issued over 3,500,000 copies of 162 different titles. And in the years since it has continued this work, so that now it has at command a great body of tract literature in English, and has published numerous tracts to meet the needs of foreign-speaking peoples in America, eighteen different foreign tongues being represented on these lists.

Visions of Larger Usefulness

The denomination, having grown an arm, became desirous that it should come to larger usefulness. The Tract Society had to be shaped into something more. Individuals of course first saw the possibilities. Who first perceived and described them no one can now say. There remain evidences that there were visions of wide service and that the willing servant chafed

against the restrictions of lack of means to do all that might be done.

The Tract Magazine, projected as a medium of communication with the constituency of the Society, is a witness to ideas in the germ which came to a noble maturity in later decades when capital had been put into the Society's hands. This periodical was more than a means of procuring interest and funds for tracts. It furnished news and helped promote denominational consciousness and unity. It showed a developing conception of the Society's possible service. A " Table of Baptist Associations in the United States and British Provinces " was printed annually, for several years, showing among other items the number of churches, ministers, baptisms, and church-members in each Association, and the date of the annual meeting, and giving also the name and address of the correspondent who furnished the statistics. The service rendered by such information was invaluable, and we cannot wonder that it led to the conception of much more detailed annual statement of the growth and organization of the denomination, and that in 1833 the Society put forth the first issue of a publication which was projected first as an annual, then as a triennial register (1836), but which was abandoned for lack of support.

Not many months had passed before a Youth's Department was added to the *Tract Magazine,* and presently the paper bore the title *Tract and Youth's Magazine.* This was the Society's first publication for young people in the churches and Sunday schools, the forerunner of the finely organized series of periodicals and papers issued today. That the thought was not simply to interest the young folks in the circulation of tracts is clear from the nature of the material and also from the thoughts that were brooding in the minds of the Society's leaders.

For instance, in a number of the *Magazine,* containing the Society's report for 1830, appears this sentence, probably

THE JUDSON PRESS BUILDING

LOMBARD AND JUNIPER STREETS, PHILADELPHIA

written by Noah Davis, the practical, far-seeing, great-hearted man who was then the General Agent, "The time may come when the number of schools in our denomination will be so great as to require the Tract Society to publish a series of Sabbath-school books suited to their wants." Of course he did not foresee all that modern Sunday-school psychologists and students of pedagogy see; nor would they, had they lived in his times. But his sentence shows a mind at work in its day for the morrow that was to be.

The successor of Mr. Davis, Ira M. Allen, had the same thought. A letter written by Mr. Allen, in April, 1833, to J. L. Holman, in Aurora, Indiana, speaks in warm advocacy of the need of a general Sunday-school agency which should issue distinctively denominational literature for young people and for others.

A New Commission from the Denomination

The editorial word in the *Tract Magazine* and the letter of Mr. Allen are representative of correspondence and discussions which finally passed into the formal councils of the denomination, and presently, in 1835, had issue in resolutions adopted at the meeting of the Triennial Baptist Convention at Richmond, Va., stating that it was expedient and timely

> to have a Society to publish and circulate valuable books, particularly of a denominational character, for Sunday school and family use,

and requesting the Baptist General Tract Society

> so to alter its constitution as to include such publications, and that the publications of the Society . . . be confined chiefly to such as set forth the peculiar and, as they are believed to be, Scriptural principles of the denomination.

In the Missionary Business

From the beginning the Society was more than a business. It was in business for the churches and the Kingdom of Christ. The missionary spirit possessed it. There is no need to won-

der at this when we know that it was born out of the thoughts of Luther Rice and the men around him. In its weakness it strove to reach out an arm of help to Adoniram Judson. In 1829 it was reported that a beginning had been made toward collecting funds for the publication of tracts in Burma, in the Burmese language. "There is reason to believe," says the Report, "that the Head of the church designs that much shall be done by the instrumentality of tracts in converting the world." It was hoped that the *Tract Magazine* would yield profits from subscriptions which might be devoted to Judson's work, especially the publication of Scriptures in Burma; this hope was vain. But in 1832 two hundred and forty-five dollars received in donations was sent to Burma for the printing of tracts in Burmese, besides a gift of 55,000 pages of tracts for circulation among the English in that country.

Yet more important was a foreign mission in Germany, where Captain Tubbs had put a few of the Society's tracts into the hand of J. G. Oncken, in Hamburg. Oncken, already converted, and leaning to the Baptist position, but as yet unbaptized, was greatly impressed by the message of the tracts to his own mind and heart, saw their great possible usefulness to others, and appealed to the Society for help, which was given. Thus the Society, by God's providence, was called to have an exceedingly important part in the initiation and development of a work of Baptist evangelization in Germany which spread past national boundaries, into Switzerland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Austria, and other countries of Europe. Lacking funds, the Society appealed to its friends and Christ's friends, and money was provided for the translation and publication of material in German to be forwarded to Oncken, and money was sent to him for use by him in the work of publication.

The kingdom mind was in the Society's leaders. Their organization was poor in money, but rich in outlook and in spirit. By 1838 work had been begun in Africa, Nova Scotia, Canada, Texas, Mexico, and South America.

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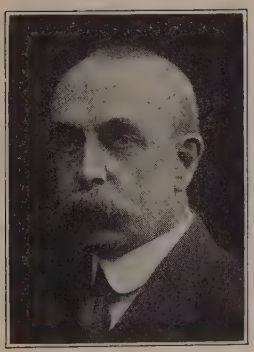
Washington

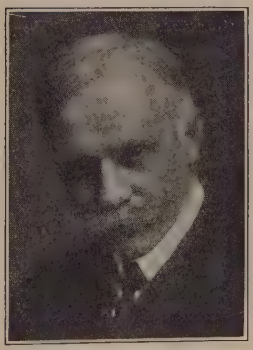
CHARLES N. ARBUCKLE, D. D.
Vice-president
Massachusetts

JOHN W. GRAVES, D. D.
Vice-president
West Virginia

GEORGE L. ESTABROOK
Treasurer



J. P. CROZER GRIFFITH, M. D.
Chairman of the Board
Pennsylvania



JOSEPH E. SAGEBEER, Ph. D.
General Counsel
Pennsylvania

HARRY BAINBRIDGE
Pennsylvania

Bricks Made and Laid, Without Straw and Scanty Clay

There were not lacking, therefore, in those early years of the Society's life a broadening vision of possible usefulness and actual authorization by the denomination to embark upon the larger service which the men to whose care the Society's work was committed were eager to develop. Yet five years elapsed before the Society was reorganized in accord with the request of the Triennial Convention. A grave hindrance was in the way—*the lack of funds.* Men of brains and heart and faith were at the head of the Society's business. But they were asked to make bricks without straw, without so much as clay. Already in 1825 the annual report told the agony and the hopefulness: "Must then the want of funds remain an insuperable obstacle to the circulation of Baptist tracts in the United States? We trust not." Able general agent succeeded able general agent, each worn down by the constant strain of trying to make one dollar do what two would not have sufficed to accomplish!

To be sure the recognized business competency of Noah Davis, and much more his attractive personality, and his contagious enthusiasm, availed to procure an increasing measure of support during the few years of his official connection with the Society's affairs. (1826-1830.) But, on his greatly lamented death, at an early age, there was an immediate and alarming decline in receipts—nearly one-half of the reasonable anticipations (instead of $5,830 only $3,094.09).

His successor, Mr. Allen, found an empty treasury, a growing debt, and a despondent Board. Unflinchingly accepting the burden, he did not narrow the field of the Society's endeavor, but enlarged it, calling attention to needs in the Mississippi Valley, where workers of the Home Mission Society might become effective distributors of tract literature, and in mission fields abroad. His appeals roused the Board and fired the generosity of the churches, but of a hoped-for $20,000 for

the advance work he was able to procure only $6,000, after a diligent canvass of a year. The terms of Mr. Davis and Mr. Allen covered the period from the removal of the Society to Philadelphia in 1826 almost to the time of its reorganization in 1840. Benjamin R. Loxley succeeded Mr. Allen, and served during the period of reorganization, distinguishing himself as " the patient man of business." Not simply the enlargement of the Society's field of work, but also provision of more adequate physical equipment was part of the vision of the new day in the minds of the leaders. In January, 1834, a circular had been issued addressed especially to the women friendly to the Society, asking contributions toward a fund for a tract house. It was thought that a suitable building, with proper equipment, would cost not less than $15,000 or $20,000. The results of the appeal were not very encouraging. In 1840 the Tract House Fund, both principal and interest, amounted to $938.49.

Another fund which had been in mind since the Society's coming to Philadelphia was capital with which to do business. There was no permanent investment yielding interest that could be applied to expense or to advance work. But the men at headquarters had business sense and planned and hoped and waited for the long-deferred day when the denomination would supply these needs.

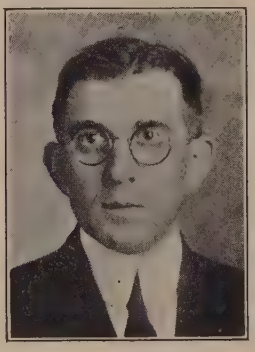
JOHN W. CLEGG
Pennsylvania

HENRY E. COLE
Pennsylvania

E. B. COLLMER
Pennsylvania

E. LEROY DAKIN, D. D.
New York

H. BOARDMAN HOPPER
Pennsylvania



HARRY L. JENKINS
Pennsylvania

GOVE G. JOHNSON, D. D.
District of Columbia

ALBERT G. LAWSON, D. D.
New York

H. KING MACFARLANE
Pennsylvania

II

REORGANIZATION AND A MERGER

1841-1856

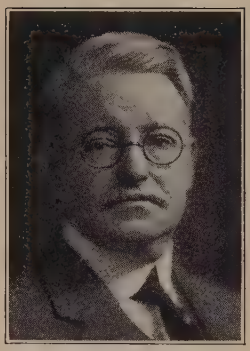
"To effect the object of its organization, a considerable amount of capital is required . . . once liberally establish it, and it will perpetuate itself."—*Report of 1841.*

"The paramount object of the Society . . . is to make our denomination, and all others over whom we have influence, a reading, thinking, working, and devotedly religious people."—*J. M. Peck, in Circular of 1843.*

"The right arm of home missions."—*B. M. Hill, Corresponding Secretary of The American Baptist Home Mission Society, in an address on the importance of the Publication Society, in Brooklyn, N. Y., May 18, 1846.*

ROBT. F. Y. PIERCE, D. D.
New York

CHARLES H. RANNELS, D. D.
New Jersey

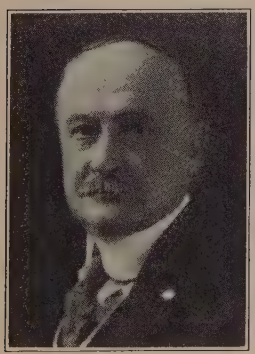


JOHN D. RHOADES
Ohio

ROMEYN RIVENBURG, A. M.
Pennsylvania

FRANK H. ROBINSON
Pennsylvania

W. QUAY ROSSELLE, Ph. D.
Massachusetts



LEVI L. RUE
Pennsylvania

R. W. SWETLAND, LL. D.
New Jersey

EDWARD L. TAYLOR
Pennsylvania

II

Action by the Tract Society at the request of the Triennial Convention that the Society modify its constitution to enlarge its work, was delayed for five years; first, because the committee appointed by the Convention to obtain the concurrence of the Board of the Society, owing to the appointment of its chairman, Rev. Howard Malcom, as "a deputation" to Burma, was never called together; and secondly—something of more weighty importance—the Board was struggling with grave financial difficulties that imperiled the very existence of the Society.

Reorganization Effected

New pressure and a fresh opportunity for effective appeal to the churches came when the Hudson River Association, meeting in 1839, brought home to the denomination the urgent need of a Baptist Sunday-school union to furnish a juvenile literature corresponding to Baptist convictions. The Board, thus encouraged, issued a circular which denominational journals gave wide publicity, presenting a plan to modify the Tract Society so that it should be empowered to issue Sunday-school publications and any others which the good of the churches might require. A Sunday-school convention, called by the Hudson River Association, met in New York City in 1840, and appointed a committee to draft a constitution for a Sunday School Union. At the annual meeting of the Tract Society in the same city, in 1840, this constitution was read, and remarkable agreement was found between what the convention's committee proposed and what the Society's Board had in mind. Action was taken amending the constitution of the Society as proposed. The Society thus reorganized was called The

American Baptist Publication and Sunday School Society; this title proved too cumbrous, and five years later, when a charter was granted by the Legislature of Pennsylvania, it was shortened to read The American Baptist Publication Society, which was practically the title originally suggested in the circular sent out by the Board on March 25, 1840. By error the Society was at first regarded, even at headquarters, as a new organization, and it was not until 1853 that the annual report corrected the notion and indicated full consciousness of a continuous history from 1824. Oddly enough also, the first report under the new name, in 1841, was published as "The Second Annual Report of the Publication Society"! Somebody was evidently badly mixed.

The Objects of the Reorganized Society

The objects of the Publication Society, as set forth in the new constitution, were, "to publish such books as are needed by the Baptist denomination, and to promote Sunday schools by such measures as experience may prove expedient." The Society would learn to do by doing. A wide field was contemplated. The term "books" was intended to be construed inclusively—"tracts, Sabbath-school books, also biographical, doctrinal, historical, and other valuable religious works as shall be required," "chiefly publications of a denominational character." The antecedent discussions and the practise of the Society agree in showing this understanding must be taken.

Amicable arrangements were proposed whereby publications of the American Tract Society and of the American Sunday School Union could be handled by the Society and its agents on the best possible terms.

It was planned that measures be adopted to put into extensive circulation, in each State of the Union, the publications of the Society and of the other organizations just named, by establishment of depositories, and by appointment of traveling

GILBERT N. BRINK, D. D.

Corresponding Secretary of the Society and General Secretary of the Board

1919-1925

agents who were to be well equipped with denominational tracts and books.

Superintendence of the Society's business was to be effected by appointment of one or more General Agents, a Depository Agent, and an Editor of the Society's publications, "men of business habits, of experience and talents."

An arrangement was to be sought whereby the New England Sabbath School Union should either be amalgamated, or enter into advantageous agreement to supply "a large and very general assortment of their publications."

Here was a program of moment. It contained much that should give shape to the Society's work during the remainder of its first century.

A Working Capital Obtained

The first thing, however, was not a big accomplishment of aims proposed, but a struggle to obtain means. Working capital was sorely needed. The liberality of the denomination must be the spring. But it proved a rock which, though touched with appeal and struck with reiterated earnestness of beseeching, was slow to respond. Once establish the Society on the basis of an adequate capital, and this servant of the denomination would care for itself by its own operations. So the Board said plainly in 1841, and, again in 1842:

> unless our operations are enlarged, it is almost useless to attempt anything. . . But must we then let the Society die? By no means.

In 1843, it appeared that an attempt to obtain a capital of $60,000 or $70,000 by an average contribution of ten cents from each member of the denomination, had utterly failed; only $1,550.95 had been received for this purpose, the receipts from all sources being only $9,906.04. The appeal was renewed. In 1844, an effort was begun to obtain $50,000 in five years, at the rate of $10,000 a year. At the meeting of the Society warm interest was shown in this project, and $725

was pledged in a few moments. But the plan failed. It must not be supposed that the Society's work was decreasing during these years. It was enlarging. Annual receipts were showing a gratifying change. Legacies were becoming an important service of aid. In 1846 it was recorded that during the years of service of J. M. Peck as Corresponding Secretary, 1843-1845, the Society's capital had been augmented by $9,000.

A most important undertaking was proposed at the anniversary in 1846, when Thomas Watson, of the Committee on Finance, advocated raising by subscription a fund of $10,000

for the use of the Society, the interest of which shall be appropriated exclusively to the gratuitous distribution of its books and tracts among the destitute, at the discretion of the Board of Managers.

The motion was carried, and pledges were at once received from five persons to the amount of $2,000, Mr. Watson giving $500. The plan met with favor, and in a single year $5,000 had been subscribed. It was reported in 1847 that the Building Fund had reached $1,659.97, paid in, and on interest, and that the total assets of the Society were $15,789.33 with no liabilities. In 1849 the $10,000 Fund was at last reported fully subscribed, this being the first fund of any size concerning which such a fact could be stated. In 1853, the last payment on subscriptions was made, and the full annual interest became available, the Society putting the capital into its business, and making grants in accord with the provisions of the fund. This annual devotion of interest on the fund has continued all through the years, and up to 1924 over $43,000 had been paid out in grants of the Society's publications.

The day of encouragement had arrived. Capital and physical equipment were now available. In 1850, the Society's Philadelphia Depository was moved from the small rented building, 31 N. Sixth Street, which had been occupied for six years, to quarters at 118 Arch Street, secured and prepared for the Society's use—"a spacious and beautiful edifice" by contrast certainly. A Building Fund of $25,000 was begun to pay for the

WILLIAM H. MAIN, D. D.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

headquarters and to erect additional buildings upon the lot; the " spaciousness " already seemed cramped! Within three years the fund was complete, but a committee declared the lot and building inadequate and recommended removal, some $30,000 more being declared necessary, of which $12,000 was offered by two brethren if the remainder could be secured; and in 1856, endeavor was begun to obtain $100,000, of which $30,000 should be for building and $70,000 for publishing purposes, the two subscriptions to be blended in one under the heading of Enlargement of Permanent Capital. For the want felt in the years of Noah Davis was still with the Society—*adequate capital.* With the exception of the Ten Thousand Dollar Fund and the Twenty-five Thousand Dollar Fund, for building, together with a few liberal legacies, little had been done in thirty-two years to give the Society needed strength and efficiency.

Some comparisons show a remarkable progress: In 1840, after sixteen years, the entire property of the Society, in stock, funds, and cash, was $4,121.70. In 1855, after deducting all liabilities, it was $63,667.03—a gain of nearly $60,000 in fifteen years. Not all this was working capital. Making all necessary deductions there was available for publication purposes only $39,300. This, after thirty-two years! But better things were to come. Of them another chapter must speak.

The Break Between Northern and Southern Baptists

The Society was organized as a national Society, and has always functioned as such in all the changes of the century. Its support, however, for the first few years came almost exclusively from Southern Baptists. At the close of the second year of its history, of the twenty-six persons enrolled as life-members, twenty-one were living south of the Mason and Dixon's Line. Of the $1,010.33 received during the first two years all but $133.73 came from Southern States. Men of the North rallied with interest and gifts of money to the Society's

aid a little later. Later still, the questions centering around the institution of slavery divided the nation into opposing sections, and drove a wedge of differing opinions and sentiments between Baptists of the country at a time when the Society was in critical need, for in 1845 feeling reached such a pitch that the Southern Baptist Convention was formed, and from that year to the present the division has been maintained. But sectional feeling did not avail utterly to destroy the practical appreciation of Southern Baptists for the Publication Society, and the Society, as will be seen, did not at all forget the South, but come to its aid in years of grave trouble.

Let it not be supposed that all or most thought and energy were given to obtaining capital. The writer has purposely elected to speak of this lack of means in order that against this as a background may be projected some noteworthy achievements.

The Beginnings of the Society's Books and Periodicals

The Society was reorganized in 1840 to do a larger work of publication. The work was done, and well done. There is no space here to give a catalog; the list would weary many readers if it were inserted. But some illustrative facts may be given.

The first books published by the Society when as yet it was merely a tract society were manuals containing tracts of proved value, especially of denominational interest. Endeavor was made, beginning in 1835, to place a copy of such a Baptist Manual in the home of every family in the Mississippi Valley. The real "volume enterprise" was begun in 1839 by the publication of a single book in each of three departments: Booth's "Reign of Grace," doctrinal; Backus' "Church History," historical, and "Memoirs of Distinguished Christians," biographical. There followed in 1840 two books on baptism (denominational controversy was very much alive), one on "Modern Infidelity," two Sunday-school books, and "Pilgrim's Progress." A Baptist Family Library, and a Baptist Sunday-

HARVEY E. CRESSMAN, Business Manager

school Library were projected in 1842, and volumes in these two series began to appear the next year. At this time also arrangements were made with Gould, Kendall and Lincoln for the preparation and joint issue of a Baptist hymn-book, "The Psalmist," which appeared in 1844, the Society owning two sets of plates and paying a royalty. Six thousand copies were quickly sold by the Society, and 25,000 by the Boston publishers, the book being received as the standard Baptist hymnal. A summary of publishing work in the years 1840-1844 showed a total of bound volumes, 34,750; of pamphlets, 5,000; of tracts, 266,573 copies. The Society put into circulation in that time 102,000 bound volumes, of which 25,000 were of its own publications.

Beginnings of Publications for Foreign-speaking Peoples

Demands for books had become so pressing that the Board borrowed $2,400 as capital to enable more adequate response. Not only theological and controversial writings but also stories for Sunday schools were put forth. An "Indian Hymn-book," in the Tuscarora language, was issued in 1846. The Society had already aided Baptist missionary work abroad—in Burma (1829), Germany (1832), and other countries in Europe—by gifts of money directly from its own funds or solicited from friends, and now renewed its interest in the labors of J. G. Oncken, of Germany, by acting as agent to collect and transmit funds for his publishing work, some of the Society's own publications seeming peculiarly valuable, after translation, for the purposes of Baptist evangelization. But this Indian hymnal was the first instance of a kind of work which grew in magnitude and variety—the issuing of books and tracts in languages other than English for the use of populations on American soil. It was followed by publications in French and German in 1849, when the second hymnal, "The Baptist Harp," also appeared. Works in Dutch and Swedish were added in 1854. The occasions for publications in these

languages were real enlargements in the Society's activities. Books and tracts in German, for instance, were made necessary by the employment of a German, David Rothen, to work among his own people in Ohio, the Ohio State Convention and the Society uniting to pay the small salary of $200; the material to be used by the worker must naturally be in German. Publications in Swedish were required when the Society began to employ colporters among the Swedes in the United States and in their own country.

A Book Editor Appointed

The Corresponding Secretary of the Society had been charged with the burden of editing publications in addition to his other duties, but with the increase of this department of the Society's business the burden became too great, and the Board appointed (1849) a Book Editor, the Rev. J. Newton Brown, whose coming meant not only relief to the chief executive officer but immediate improvement in the style of the books as well as increase in the number of issues—eighteen new publications in 1840, sixteen in 1851, forty-three in 1852, seventy-nine in 1853. Thirty-six of the books issued in 1853 were Sunday-school books; more than doubling the number in the catalog. The rapid growth in the quantity of publications is indicated in the following table:

1840-1845	4,230,255 pages
1845-1850	18,151,863 pages
1850-1855	107,587,800 pages

For this three causes were assigned—the appointment of an Editor, the Ten Thousand Dollar Fund, the increase of sales due to removal to the Arch Street Depository, all of which occurred in 1849-1850. Other reasons were that several thousand dollars of the unemployed building fund were temporarily loaned for publishing purposes, there were good manuscripts available, and the colporter force was increasing.

SECRETARIAL OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
AND THE BUSINESS MANAGER

From left to right: S. Mildred White, Elsie K. Walter, Clara J. Duttarer, Office Secretaries

New tracts were issued, and old numbers were kept in stock. But attention and means were devoted increasingly to providing book literature. The tract had to take its place in a larger scheme of publications. As in the earlier years a group of tracts of proved value in English had been brought together, so in this decade and a half the beginnings of Baptist tract literature for foreign-speaking peoples were made.

Periodical Publications

The periodical publications of the Society in this period were few in number. *The Baptist Record,* successor of the *Tract Magazine,* was changed in September, 1840, from a semi-monthly to a weekly paper; the circulation at once increasing rapidly, to 3,100 copies. It was dependent on gratuitous editorial service of city pastors to save it from bankruptcy, but proved a valuable means of communication with the churches, especially in Pennsylvania. In 1842 the circulation was larger —3,300—and the paper was self-sustaining; but subscriptions fell off—2,700 reported in 1844—and a committee recommended that it be placed under the responsibility of some individual publishing house. Its weekly issue ceased in January, 1846, and a quarterly *Baptist Record,* distributed gratuitously, took its place. By 1853 twenty-six thousand copies had thus been issued.

The Sabbath School Gleaner was a monthly magazine for children, begun in 1841. How long it lived does not appear. Doctor Brown, in his history of the first three decades of the Society, did not think the Sunday-school periodical of sufficient importance to give the thread of its story a place in the web of progress. The little paper witnesses, however, to the Society's endeavor to fulfil its function as a Sunday-school union. It is one of the features of the beginnings. Doctor Brown does record that copies of other Sunday-school papers, published by the New England Sunday School Union, were circulated from the Society's Philadelphia depository. The

Sunday-school purpose was being served by the best means at hand.

A Register of Baptist Statistics

In 1833 the Society issued a Baptist Register of denominational statistics which, it was purposed, should be an annual publication. But the expense and the failure of the people to respond with subscriptions made the project impossible. The next issue of the Register (1836) bore the name Triennial, but was not finally freed from deficit on the costs of $1,382.26 for the 2500 copies until 1838, and the Society's officials felt not at all encouraged to carry out the new plan of an issue every three years. However, the claims of service to the denomination were even more strongly felt, and in the list of proposed new publications suggested by the Board in 1839 appears an "Evangelical Almanac and Baptist Annual Register." This annual first appeared in November, 1841, and had a continuous history until 1868, when it was succeeded by the American Baptist Year-Book. The first issue contained statistics "hastily gathered and consequently inaccurate." Of the edition of 8,350 copies about 7,000 were put into circulation. In 1843, 12,000 copies were sold. This publication, like the Year-Book of today, contained brief reports of the anniversaries of the national Societies. This fact is important for any historian of the Publication Society, as the reports of the Society and of its Board were, for some unknown reason, not printed and published in full for the six years 1847 to 1852, and the only material available to Dr. J. Newton Brown when he was writing in 1855 and 1856, were the condensed reports in the "Almanac" and in the *Quarterly Baptist Record,* and files of the latter are no longer in the Society's possession.

Colportage Work

Of striking importance was the system of agents to convey the literature published and handled by the Society to the door

DANIEL GURDEN STEVENS, PH. D., BOOK EDITOR
DOROTHY R. HORMANN and LYDIA J. DUNNING, ASSISTANTS

of every Baptist Sunday school and as far as possible to every home where a Baptist agent might call. To these traveling agents the name colporter—literally, *neck*-porters—was given. The Society was the first to apply the name and adopt the system in religious work. Lack of funds prevented prompt and large development. As the report of 1843 pictured the situation,

> There needs to be (at the least) an average of two or three efficient colporters in each State of our Union, who with an ample supply of these publications, should visit every church, every Sunday school, and every family in the land, and who shall not be dependent on their sales for their maintenance, but who shall receive salaries as missionaries, and be accountable for the sales they effect; while each one should be authorized to give away (within certain limits) where he discovers that the Cross of Christ could be promoted by this course.

This was the picture. What was the reality? "Very little colporter agency, for want of stock to supply, and funds to support, the colporters." At first, the men received a commission on sales; ministers doing itinerant service, like Methodist circuit riders, were used in this experiment. Twenty men were in service on this plan in 1845. Slowly another plan gained place. The colporter was employed for a part of the year on a definite salary, and the percentage on sales was also used to help support him if necessary, or, after incidental expenses were met, was placed to the Society's credit. In 1851 there were 27 "colporter missionaries," in seven States, besides Canada and Oregon, working among the Germans, Dutch, Irish, and French; the salary of each of these men being $150 a year. The next year there were 34, in eleven States, and in Oregon; and two funds of $2,500 were established, the interest to be used in supporting one such missionary. Of course, the annual interest would not avail for the purpose today, but it is interesting to know that the interest on one of these funds, which has been faithfully applied to the purpose prescribed, has amounted in the course of the years (up to 1924) to about $9,000. It was suggested that ministerial students might well

give some time to colportage, thus obtaining a practical experience which would stand them in most welcome stead when they entered upon settled pastorates. Of sixty-two colporters under appointment in 1854 thirteen were students in vacation-time; and in 1855 thirty-four out of 114 were college students. At the close of 1855 sixty-nine men were under commission, thirty-five being sustained by funds specially designated. At last the idea was making effective appeal to the denomination. Nearly all of the Society's colportage " was bestowed on waste and desert places," and " was, strictly speaking, a preaching institution," most of the men being ministers. The work was not limited to America, but in 1855 was extended to Sweden under a plan prepared by the Society's colporter, Andreas Wiberg, the Foreign Mission Society not being able to undertake the mission.

Donations

While the Society has always studied economy, for many years under the stern master necessity, and always from a sense of obligation to the denomination, its economies have never meant any one's private profit, but have always been aimed to make possible larger work of publication and distribution. And while distribution has been effected in a very large degree through sales as a measure of necessary economy, these sales have had their part in enabling the Society to make increasing donations of its issues.

The story of the years from 1840 to 1856, on the one hand is of slowly growing capital, but on the other of rapidly increasing beneficence. In 1843 the new Corresponding Secretary, J. M. Peck, issued a circular announcing as the paramount object of the Society, " to make our denomination, and all others, over whom we have influence, a reading, thinking, working, and devotedly religious people." To this end the first measure proposed was the gratuitous distribution of religious publications " as widely as possible among the destitute in our own

OWEN C. BROWN, D. D.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, SUNDAY SCHOOL PUBLICATIONS

and other lands." Mr. Peck had himself already been instrumental in effecting large distributions of tracts in the Mississippi Valley. In 1844 he reported that thirty-four destitute ministers in the Western Valley received libraries. A conspicuous feature in Annual Reports is that of grants of libraries to Sunday schools and to ministers, of aid in money to Germany, France, and China to enable publications of needed literature in those countries, of books and tracts to Canada, West Indies, France, Assam, Burma.

A letter from San Francisco, dated September 1, 1847, reached the Society after being one year on the way, requesting a donation of Sunday-school books. Books were at once granted, and sent around Cape Horn. They reached California just as gold was discovered, and formed the first Sunday-school library ever used in California.

From the first interest on the Ten Thousand Dollar Fund in 1849 appropriations were made to California and other destitute sections. Headquarters evidently took a pride in the matter of grants, feeling that thus the Society's object was being happily achieved. There was a committee on distributions—men with hearts bigger than the funds:

On hearing the appeal [so runs the record in the Report of 1854] eyes that do not often weep are moistened—an order follows in a choked utterance, "Send him Fuller's Works, the Baptist Commentary, and Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge, and if there is no money in the funds, charge me."

Anonymous generosity in the Board often supplemented the limited income available.

A Historical Department

The Society's concern to perform adequately its work as the denomination's servant found another fine expression late in this period in the organization of what was purposed to be a historical department, but which was formed as a distinct society. The intent was that the department contemplated should collect and preserve "all documents elucidating our denominational history" and to publish

such papers and volumes as may shed light upon the rise and growth of Baptist churches and the progress of Baptist principles throughout the Union. One of the ultimate aims of such an organization should be to secure a complete reliable history of the denomination, from the days of the Apostles.

Such was the recommendation of the Board, which was enthusiastically endorsed by the Society, and the so-called department was formed, May 5, 1853. It sustained, however, an anomalous relationship to the Society, by reason of the fact that it had its own constitution, Board, officers, and membership. It was not a department, nor was it exactly independent, for its Board and officers were appointed, its annual reports were printed, and its library room was furnished by the Publication Society. For ten years this state of things continued. Then the department declared its independence, which the Publication Society acknowledged. But not all connection was broken off. It is expressly provided that the Corresponding Secretary of the Publication Society and the Chairman and the Recording Secretary of the Board of Managers shall be ex-officio members of the Board of the Historical Society. Should the Historical Society decide to cease its functions to the denomination the Publication Society would be its legal heir. Most friendly and helpful relations are maintained. The income of the Historical Society has often been very small, and in years which would have seen it without funds for the bare essentials of its existence the Publication Society has generously come to its aid, and has also provided office room without rental, as Crozer Theological Seminary freely provides place in its library building for the valuable collection of the Historical Society.

The Historical Society has a small endowment, yielding an income far from sufficient to pay necessary running expenses. Of late, the denomination, through the New World Movement, made provision such that it has become possible, not only to employ the stenographer and the assistant to the Librarian (who himself, like the other officers, serves without salary) in

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cataloging the collection of historical materials, but also to bind valuable files of papers, and the Society has been enabled to make some purchases of matter that will be worth more and more to the denomination in years to come.

Absorption of the New England Sabbath School Union

Even before the reorganization of the Society an amalgamation of the New England Sabbath School Union was suggested, and this was definitely in mind as a consummation to be achieved when the Publication Society entered upon its work. At the Sunday School Convention, held April 30, 1840, in New York City, the Committee which recommended that the Baptist General Tract Society become a general publishing society, made further recommendation that this union be effected. But the second recommendation was not adopted.

The New England Sabbath School Union was itself the result of the merger of two New England organizations for much more than local, for national, Sunday-school service, naming among its objects (1) the publication of books suitable for Sabbath schools, (2) the circulation of such books in New England and in the South and West, (3) to insure the permanency and increase the efficiency of Sabbath schools where they already exist, and (4) the establishment of schools wherever favorable locations demand them.

Here now were two national societies in the same field. Appeals came from both to the same constituency. The New England Union had perhaps the initial advantage. It enlisted the confidence and support of great laymen and ministers. The Publication Society, as has been seen, had no small difficulty in capturing the imagination and winning the practical aid of the denomination.

Two sets of agents crossed each other's path, or, peradventure, met at the same place on the same errand, and for that reason more than any other, were both unwelcome; while on the other hand, two sets of colporters met on the same field.

The situation demanded mending. In 1848 the Society's Board made overtures for union which were regarded with favor by the Board of the Union. Correspondence followed, and by the spring of 1850 negotiations seemed within sight of a pleasing conclusion. But even then failure befell. It was not until 1855 that a renewal of negotiations was suggested by persons who had knowledge of the inner affairs of the Union. It appeared that the Union had already sold its entire stock to a private publishing house. But this firm was composed of men who favored the plan of union. So the Board of the Society was able to purchase in 1856,

> at the appraisement of a commitee of disinterested persons, the stock of plates, engravings, copyrights, etc., and to embrace the New England Sabbath School Union as part and parcel of the Publication Society.

Well did J. Newton Brown say that the union formed a new epoch. This is the last word in his history. It discovers the Society on the threshold of a new era of expansion and service.

MITCHELL BRONK, PH. D.
EDITOR, ADULT PUBLICATIONS

III

A GENERATION UNDER GRIFFITH

1857-1893

"Preeminently a Sunday School Society."—*Benjamin Griffith.*

"Emphatically a family and Sunday-school missionary Society."—*Report of the Board in 1874.*

"The Bible work of Baptists should be done" in the homeland "by The American Baptist Publication Society."—*Decision of the Bible Convention at Saratoga, New York, 1883.*

NATHANA L. CLYDE, Editor, Week-day Lesson Texts
SUSANNA G. FISHER, Editor, "Youth's World"

III

With the year 1857 came the dawn of a new era for the Society. Perhaps it did not look like dawn to the watchful men at headquarters. Resignations of important officers (the treasurer and the depository agent) and of two Board members, and the loss by death of true and able friends, had developed a sense of weakening change. The acquisition of a little capital had made the need of more stand out in clearer view. The growing work required increasing contributions from the churches. The Business Department was embarrassed by reason of advances of cash made for missionary work, and liabilities had been increased by purchase of the stock of the New England Sabbath School Union. To crown all, the country was in the grip of a serious financial panic which meant embarrassment for the business of the Society; and on the horizon were portents of the Civil War. The time was one of trouble and of darkness.

None the less a new era was dawning.

The history of the Society is biography, a story of men. A most notable chapter was opening.

Benjamin Griffith, a member of the Board since 1852, was called to the secretaryship. In the first century of the Society's service the average term of office of the principal executive officer has been six years. But this executive was to occupy the position for more than the lifetime of a generation. He was to have opportunity to originate plans, to try them out, and to correct them in the light of experience. Added to the influence of his personality and to the effectiveness of the abilities which he developed, was the advantage of his family connections. He was related by marriage and by friendship to families which proved some of the ablest and most generous

contributors to the support and enlargement of the Society's work. Perhaps it should not be said that because of him the names of Crozer and of Bucknell were written large in the power and usefulness of the Society. It was well indeed for the Society and its work that the executive secretary had to sustain him a Board of which these men were representative, and well also, that they knew him so intimately and believed in him so thoroughly. There was a future of strength and effectiveness for the Society because of an accumulating wealth of personality that was investing itself through this organization. For forty-nine years William Bucknell served as a member of the Board, twenty-three years as chairman. His active connection dated from 1841. At the time of his death in 1890 it was recorded of him that he was the largest single giver to the Society. His name is mentioned here because he is a capital instance of the growing personal interest, confidence, and devotion which meant a new day was at hand in 1857.

Administrative Features of the Griffith Era

The first striking feature of the Griffith era was administration. The centralization of power in him as executive is impressive. "The Corresponding Secretary was made also editor, publishing agent, depository agent, and assistant treasurer." This meant direct knowledge and command of the departments and of the whole work of the Society. It was an expedient to meet an emergency. Certain readjustments of the varied work of the Society became elements of a permanent order.

A complete separation of the Business and the Missionary Departments was effected. Each had its own set of books, and kept its own accounts, both departments reporting to the Corresponding Secretary as the executive head. This arrangement has prevailed ever since.

The whole system of colportage was carefully revised. The

ANNA EDITH MEYERS, Missionary Editor

need for the colporter—to carry religious books to doors they would not otherwise enter, to press this literature upon the people's attention, to sell where he can and to give books gratis where there is inability to purchase—was stated afresh. But renewed emphasis was given the spiritual nature of the colporter's business, that he is not a book-pedler, but a man of God, intent on saving souls; a "suppletory missionary"—so he is defined in the report of 1858—that is, "he reaches a class that is not and cannot be reached by ordinary means of grace."

The work was put and kept on a business basis. In all the years of the Society's service its strictly business hand has helped with vigor its hand of benevolence. But this meant ofttimes something other than strictly business. For instance, in 1860 it was reported that the total receipts from the churches for all the benevolent purposes of the Society, during the preceding eight years, had been $86,949.68. But in the same eight years the Society expended in benevolent work $113,887.79, or $26,938.11 more than it had received from the churches. "Where did this sum come from? From the business; and to its great detriment." It was customary then as it is customary today when ready money is needed for the benevolent work, to advance the necessary funds out of the business treasury; then later, when the benevolent department has not wherewith to pay, the accumulated debt is frankly forgiven.

> But this draining the business for the support of colportage cannot be continued . . . the churches must take care of colportage. . . It is proposed to conduct the business, as heretofore, on strictly mercantile principles, and at the end of the year divide the net profits, if there are any, giving one-fourth to the colporter work, and adding the other three-fourths to the book capital.

Finance and Buildings

The determination of the Corresponding Secretary to build up a publishing business worthy of the denomination was

seconded not only by the Board's vote and moral support but by the liberality of its members. John P. Crozer and William Bucknell provided, in 1861, the cost of enlarging the building at 530 Arch Street, in all, $8,866.75, on condition that other friends should add $6,000 as capital for the business. The opening of the Civil War brought great depression in business, and the Society's receipts declined over $28,000; but so well were affairs managed that the total liabilities at the end of the year were but $1,025.96. Conditions grew better, receipts increased year by year, and the report of the year 1865, at the close of the war, jubilantly declared, "It has been the most prosperous year the Society has ever known." A grievous loss was the death of John P. Crozer, highly esteemed for himself no less than for his good works. But his works failed not at his passing, for in 1866 his family, possessed of his spirit, erected a missionary memorial to his name in the gift of a fund of fifty thousand dollars, the income of which should be devoted to certain benevolent objects specified by the donors.

The increase in receipts became marked in the decade following the war. In the decade 1855-1864 the receipts in the Benevolent Department were $165,634.82; in the Business, $509,429.02. While in the decade 1865-1874 the income for benevolence was $588,521.96, and in the business, $2,276,-158.56. The day of more adequate equipment of the publishing arm of the denomination had come.

The quarter of a century spent in the first real home on Arch Street was a time of development. Opportunities and responsibilities for work increased. The churches were looking to the Society for larger things in fulfilment of its functions as a Sunday-school union and a colportage Society, as well as a publishing house. The Society responded with a vastly increased and much more diversified output. Thus it outgrew its quarters. It had depended largely upon other firms for the manufacture of its publications, making contracts where advantage seemed to lie. About 1860 there was a composing-

J. EUGENE REED, Assistant Editor, Adult Publications

room in the Arch Street building where the type was set; but then the work had to be sent out for stereotyping and printing. Experience indicated that a complete plant in the Society's own building would mean a great gain. But there must be the building. The movement to secure it originated with William Bucknell who gave an initial subscription of $25,000, one-fifth of the total subscription that was first proposed. Later, seeing that the original conception of the necessary building was far too small, he doubled his gift, and his generosity was matched by that of the Crozer family. Altogether the Bucknell family contributed $77,550, the Crozer family $92,000, some eighty-seven subscribers $59,257, and the sale of the Arch Street property brought $29,779. Mr. Bucknell's gift of $50,000 was in bonds, his only condition being that the Society should give away annually, in its own publications, a sum equal to six per cent. interest. The bonds greatly depreciated in value a few years later, whereupon Mr. Bucknell, a princely spirit, redeemed them for cash, saving the Society from loss.

Of the buildings formerly occupied as headquarters scanty description is given in the old records. But the structure at 1420 Chestnut Street into which the Society entered on February 29, 1876, was obviously a delight, for lengthy detail of its accommodations and equipment were given in the annual report of that year. The pride and satisfaction of the Corresponding Secretary and the Board can still be felt by the reader whom the word picture conducts through the interior, from the engine and press-rooms and the storage vaults for stereotype and electrotype plates in the basement, through the store, the ministers' parlor, the counting-room and the shipping department on the first floor, the assembly-room and offices on the second floor, the folding, trimming, and binding departments on the third, to the office of *The National Baptist* and the rooms of the Historical Society on the fourth, and the composing-room, the desks of the proof-readers, and the un-

bound stock of publications on the fifth floor. It was a joy, this building and its equipment. Not all was at first the property of the Society. The printing-plant was still the property of a private firm which had been employed to do the heavier presswork. But in 1886 the Society purchased all the machinery and was its own workman in its own house.

The dream which earlier Boards and Agents and Corresponding Secretaries had dared to dream had at last come true. The Society had money and means with which to serve.

In 1874 came the first gift of a kind that has become important in the course of the Society's second fifty years—annuities. It sometimes happens that persons who wish to make gifts for the furtherance of the Society's work are not in position to devote both principal and income of their money while they live. They therefore enter into an agreement whereby they are assured of a certain annuity, which ceases at the death of the annuitant. The first fund of this character was of $5,000, on which the donor made an initial payment of $1,010 in 1874. In ten years the total of annuity funds reached $108,000. After this large additions came more slowly, and it was not until the beginning of the last decade of the Society's century that the growth of annuity funds became a matter of moment.

The total receipts reported in 1850, at the end of the first year of Doctor Griffith's administration, were, in the Benevolent Department, $14,972.17, and in the Business, $42,146.21.

In 1876, in the Benevolent Department, $62,028.82, and in the Business, $490,364.83, were the totals, over four times as much for benevolence, and nearly twelve times as much return for business; while in 1893-1894, the year that Doctor Griffith died, the Missionary Department received in all $127,649.91, and the Society did a gross business amounting to $497,807.48. Clearly, in the second third of its first century, the Society had advanced far from the conditions of weakness and uncertainty which still hung about it at the close of its first three decades.

EMMA L. BROWN, Editor, "Young People"

FRANCES FORMAN, Filing Secretary

But why was this annual support made so generous, and why was it possible to do so large a business? Of course, the denomination itself was becoming more powerful and better able to provide for the agents of service it had created. But more than that, this agent had a growing efficiency and had been commissioned to do bigger tasks upon which it had entered with wonted readiness to bear burdens and to perform responsible offices. In its great lines of work surprising advances had been made.

The Sunday School Union of Baptists

From the time of the reorganization in 1840 there had been earnest effort on the part of the Society to develop Sunday-school work. Progress was slow. There was a disabling lack of funds, of full and accurate reports of conditions and needs, and also, as modern workers would remark, of a knowledge of child psychology and of pedagogical method by which has been made possible so well-devised and complete a furnishing of Sunday-school supplies in the twentieth century. But those early workers were feeling their way along with a purpose that would not be denied its goal, even in the face of difficulties that arose in large part from a constituency which, to say the least, was not practically sympathetic, for though not wholly unfriendly to the Sunday-school idea, the churches could not see that they were standing in the way of their own progress when refusing to give so much as Sunday-school statistics as a part of church reports.

In 1853 the Board of Managers suggested what would amount to a systematic survey of the Sunday-school field of the denomination, to be repeated annually. The publication of a paper as an organ of communication with the schools all over the country was seen to be a pressing need, which fortunately it was soon possible to meet. For among the publications which were acquired by the merger, in 1856, of the New England Sabbath School Union with the Society, was *The*

Young Reaper, which appearing for the first time with the imprint of the Publication Society in January, 1857, speedily gained favor, so that in June of that year fifty thousand copies of this monthly were printed, and in 1861 the average issue was of one hundred thousand copies.

The organization of new schools became one of the great endeavors of the Society, and as early as 1857 the colporters were able to report the formation of one school for every week in the year.

Then was provided, in 1859, a series of question books to secure "an intelligent and established membership" and to advance "the cause of truth"; three of these were catechisms, four were intended for beginners' departments, and thirteen for ordinary Sunday-school and Bible classes. The ideas of religious education and of graded publications were evidently not wanting.

In 1866, the Society responded to a call for more and better fruits of the work of a Sunday-school union by earnest inquiry how to increase its efficiency. The immediate results were: A thorough reexamination of the library books it had been publishing—stories adapted to convey moral, religious, and denominational teachings—and the discarding of such as did not conform to carefully formulated standards of character and usefulness; more vigor in the endeavor by colporters to establish new schools; the employment of Sunday-school missionaries; the conversion of *The Young Reaper* into a semi-monthly (circulation 130,000), and the production of such requisites as secretary's and librarian's records. The next year, at the Society's anniversary, the able report of George F. Davis on what the Society was doing and was able to do was a convincing argument that there was no occasion for another organization to enter the field.

In 1868, the Society offered five premiums of $500 each, for five Sunday-school books of marked worth. Two lesson papers, Bible Lessons, were issued in 1869; and in January,

MARGARET CLEMENS and EVA MAE JOHN

EDITORS, CHILDREN'S PUBLICATIONS

1870, *The Baptist Teacher,* one result of a Sunday-school convention, held in St. Louis, in November, 1869, began to appear, attaining at once a circulation of 18,000. The Society's *Bible Lessons* were an anticipation of the uniform lessons in The International Series, which now began to be urged.

A standing committee on Sunday-school and Bible work was created in 1871, and a Sunday-school secretary was appointed, the Rev. Warren Randolph, who entered upon his work with a generous breadth of understanding of what should be done in the Sunday-school field, as can be seen upon examination of the survey of work proposed which he submitted to the board. It is too long to be quoted here. It is noteworthy that he recommended the organization of workers into State Sunday-school conventions with local auxiliaries, the gathering of all information possible in regard to Sunday-school work, the securing of an adequate number of teachers whose competency should be insured by training in conventions and institutes, the furnishing of necessary aids and helps to teachers and schools, the development of practical Sunday-school benevolence.

In 1876, when the Society entered its new headquarters at 1420 Chestnut Street, it was issuing seven periodical publications: one was a literary and theological review, suspended in 1877; another a denominational weekly for the family; the other five periodicals were designed for the Sunday school, meeting, as well as could be done in those days, the needs of all classes, from the teaching force to the youngest people. In 1881 there were nine periodical publications for the Sunday school, indicative of thoughtful effort to provide material adapted to the most closely graded schools of the times. The Robert Raikes Centenary in 1880 had quickened the schools themselves, and the Society had greatly enlarged its work, recording an expansion greater than in any other year of its previous history. The year 1884 marked the accomplishment

of further improvements to the lesson helps and the addition of new publications. It was recognized "that each natural grade in the Sunday school has its appropriate teaching material." How excellent was the provision of material may be remarked from the fact that for half a century the names of some of these publications were household words, and the circulation of the periodicals attained and held heights indicative of the worth that had won favor, and of the unceasing care that worth should not decline.

The Bible House of the American Baptists

The report of the first annual meeting of The Baptist General Tract Society, held in Washington, February 28, 1825, speaks of Bible work as one of the "leading designs" had in mind by the Society. But after that first word no more is found on this subject in the records for many years. Even when the plans of the organization underwent such signal enlargement in 1840, and the publication of books was definitely begun, still there was silence as to the Bible. Allowance must be made, in judging the earlier years, for the absorbing interest in tracts which, as was said at the time, could enter where the Bible could not; allowance, also, for the continual lack of funds, acutely distressing in 1840 and in the years immediately following, when new work cried out to be done. The opening of colportage work in 1841, however, made it possible to observe the dearth of Bibles in many homes, and presently the Book of books was included in the literature which was sold or given away.

In 1856 the report noted that "among the families visited by our colporters within the last two years, no less than 4,746 were found without a Bible." Grateful acknowledgment was made of

a grant of Bibles and Testaments from the American and Foreign Bible Society to the amount of two hundred dollars; thrice that amount could be advantageously distributed annually by our colporters.

ELIZABETH A. SHUFF and ELEANOR SAYRE, Office Secretaries

Bible work at first meant only distribution of the Scriptures. But happenings were in progress which were to bring to the Society a definite denominational commission for a larger service.

The necessity of publication of the Bible by a Baptist house under Baptist care arose in 1837. The American Bible Society refused to appropriate funds for the printing and circulating of translations of the Scriptures made by Baptist missionaries in India, in which the words relating to baptism were rendered by those equivalent to immersion. Thereupon Baptists organized the American and Foreign Bible Society to aid in printing and circulating the Scriptures in various languages and dialects of the East. With few exceptions all the Baptists in America united in its support, so that at first it made rapid progress. But at the annual meeting in 1850 a majority of the Board of Managers recommended that the Society engage in the revision of the English Scriptures. This recommendation was rejected. As a result many supporters withdrew and formed The American Bible Union, whose object was "to procure and circulate the most faithful versions in all languages of the world." These two organizations each proceeded to follow their chosen lines of work, the Bible Union addressing itself particularly to the revision of the English Bible, though accomplishing also a similar work with the New Testament in Spanish and Italian.

There were now two Baptist Bible Societies in the field, and The American Baptist Publication Society as well. It was felt that a consolidation should if possible be effected. At a convention in New York, May 10 and 11, 1859, called for the purpose of inquiring into the expediency of consolidating or reconstructing the benevolent societies of the denomination, it was voted that the union of The American and Foreign Bible Society with The Publication Society under the direction of one Board in Philadelphia would be productive of efficiency and economy in the issue and distribution of the Scriptures

and other evangelical productions. This resolution was reported to the Publication Society at its meeting in 1859, and was referred to the Board. It was found that legal difficulties seemed to make the proposed union impracticable, but the matter was not regarded as finally closed. In 1865 overtures were made by the Board of the Publication Society, but this second effort at union failed. In 1866, the Society, deploring this outcome of the negotiations, but not construing the failure as a bar to its own operations, voted that

> the work of printing and distributing the Bible is appropriately a part of the work of this Society, as is expressed in the second article of the constitution,

and authorized the Board

> so to enlarge its plans and means of operation, that it may be the denominational organ for this work in the home field,

but, in 1867, approved the Board's wise delay to comply with this instruction. In 1869 the Society amended its charter so that in statement of its object specific mention should be made of the Bible "as its first means of promoting evangelical religion." In the same year, and in 1870 and 1871, negotiations with the Bible Society were renewed, without securing the union, but with the effect that the Publication Society entered more earnestly upon the work of Bible distribution, depending for the development of this feature of its activities upon funds specifically donated for Bible work. In 1880 the gift of $5,000 was reported, the principal to form the nucleus of a Bible distribution fund, the interest to be applied in supplying Bibles and Testaments to the poor. Discussion went on in the denominational gatherings and in the press. In 1881 there was remarked "the prevalence of a positive, deep-seated, and growing conviction" that the Publication Society was the proper agency to conduct the Bible work of the denomination in the home field. In response to this the Society approved the decision of the Board

SAMUEL G. NEIL, D. D., Bible and Field Secretary
LINDA DeARMOND, Office Secretary
MARGARET C. GUY and VARENA B. HILL, Assistants

to push with vigor all departments of Bible work upon the home field, including the circulation of the Common Version of the Scriptures, and the publication and circulation of new translations, in so far as money given specially for that purpose will enable the Society to do.

Discussion in the denomination became more general and heated, till finally at the General Baptist Bible Convention of the United States, held in Saratoga, N. Y., on May 22 and 23, 1883, it was voted that

the Bible work of Baptists should be done by our two existing Societies—the foreign work by The American Baptist Missionary Union, and the home work by The American Baptist Publication Society.

As instructed by the Bible Convention the Society now set up a Bible Department with a Secretary. In 1885 one Secretary was designated to serve the Bible and Missionary Departments, and that arrangement continues to this day.

The Society took up with earnestness the work committed to its trust by the Saratoga Convention. Not only did it continue to issue the translations of The American Bible Union, but committed the New Testament revision to representatives of Northern and Southern seminaries, and in 1891 brought out a translation of this portion of the Bible, which has often received high commendation for its felicity and its faithfulness to the original.

The revision of the Old Testament, already begun by the Bible Union, was also committed to competent men for completion, but full accomplishment of this work was not had until two decades after the death of Doctor Griffith.

Colportage Work

From 1845 the increasingly prominent feature in the annual report of the Board was colportage. This appears not only in the large space given to excerpts from the reports of the men in the field, but also in the emphasis laid upon this right arm of the service by the executive heads of the Society.

Colportage work by the Society was already in progress in Sweden when Doctor Griffith came into office. It is interesting to note that a tract published by the Society was the means of gaining for the Baptist cause the man most conspicuous in this work. " Pengilly on Baptism " was sent to Germany at the request of Doctor Oncken, and a copy came into the hands of Andreas Wiberg, a Lutheran minister in Sweden, and led him to become a Baptist. He came to America and was first employed by the Society as a colporter among his countrymen in New York, but was eager to carry out plans for work in his homeland, where a " conventicle act " had brought legalized persecution to bear upon all who dared separate from the State Church, and especially upon preachers, but the press was free, and therefore colportage was the strategic move. Mr. Wiberg prepared literature, writing a notable book on baptism, and translating tracts and books. In 1855 he was sent out by the Society, and was soon supplied with helpers. The Rev. C. F. Hejdenberg whose suffering under persecution had greatly stirred the Society, had already established four churches, and there were 300 baptized believers. At the close of 1856 there were 21 churches and 961 communicants. In 1866, when the Society transferred the mission to the Missionary Union there were 176 churches, 6,606 communicants, and nine associations, and the work had spread into Norway. The Society had sent duplicate sets of plates and tracts in Swedish to Mr. Wiberg, and had spent $26,000. Later, in 1882, responding to a call from the Swedish brethren for aid in inaugurating and conducting a publishing and colportage work, the Society employed the Rev. Jonas Stadling who in three years laid the foundations of the Swedish publication society.

From 1872 to 1877 the Society conducted a mission in Italy, having W. C. Van Meter under commission as a Bible and Sunday-school missionary. His methods were in part those of a colporter, but he also set up training-schools for Christian workers to prepare Italians to work among their own people.

THE FIRST COLPORTAGE AUTOMOBILE EQUIPMENT
SENT OUT BY THE AMERICAN BAPTIST PUBLICATION SOCIETY
COLPORTER D. B. WARD CARRYING HIS BOOKS IN HIS HAND

Lack of funds compelled abandonment of this mission. Special contributions enabled a similar undertaking in Turkey and Armenia, from 1883 to 1891. In 1883 two colporters labored in Mexico.

As already shown, the beginnings of the Baptist denomination in Central Europe were rooted in mental and spiritual soil that gained character from the literature of the Publication Society. J. G. Oncken, himself an example of the value of the Society's tracts in establishing the mind in Scriptural ways of thinking, from 1832 till infirmities of age compelled his retirement forty years later, was steadily in touch with Philadelphia, receiving aid from the Society in carrying forward a Baptist publishing and colportage work in his own land. In 1878, Dr. Philip W. Bickel was sent by the Society to put on a basis of strength and permanency the work Doctor Oncken had so ably carried on. Doctor Bickel gave eight years to service as General Manager of the Baptist Publication Society at Hamburg, reorganizing the business to new effectiveness. The Foreign Mission Society then assumed care of the undertaking. New fields of home work were entered as occasion required. As conditions in the population of the country changed, the Society studied to meet them with men and means. During the Civil War men were employed among the soldiers and also among the freedmen in States where they could be reached. Large quantities of literature were sent to camps and hospitals, and thousands of dollars were expended in work among the Negroes. The interest aroused in the Negro race is reflected in conditions prescribed for the administration of one of the largest single funds ever given to the Society. The Society was a friend in need to the South at the close of the war. As a Southerner has testified: [1]

With unstinted hand it gratuitously supplied hundreds of schools, both of the whites and of the blacks. Hundreds of Sunday-school libraries

[1] B. F. Riley, D. D., "History of Baptists in the Southern States East of the Mississippi," p. 295.

also were furnished in the same spirit. For more than fifteen years this work was prosecuted by the Society alone in the States of the South. Coupled with this was a colportage and missionary system under the auspices of the Publication Society.

Baptists of the South were generous supporters of the Society in the days of its infancy. Their investment was now repaid with interest, not as a debt, but in the same spirit of unselfish Christian interest which in that earlier day had prompted their own gifts.

The number of colporters often seemed too small. Efforts were made to build up a larger body of the highly esteemed workers. Associational colportage—one colporter within the bounds of each Association in the country—was proposed in 1868, the Society to aid the Associations that were of themselves unable to support the men. The ideal was noble. Perhaps the State Conventions and the Society may yet be able to work it out. The emphasis that came to be placed on employment of Sunday-school missionaries in the decade from 1871 to 1880 lessened the number of colporters, only fourteen being on the list in 1880, but on recommendation of Doctor Griffith, the list showed 119 men in forty States and Territories.

One of the most striking advances made in this period was in the aids given the colporter for the transportation of himself and his burden of literature. At first, and for many decades, such a man was what his name implies, a neck-porter. Dr. L. C. Barnes estimates that in the century the men in the Society's employ must have walked a million miles or more, along forest trails or prairie paths or city streets, in blazing sun and biting blizzards. Sometimes the literature was borne in a basket on the arm. The horse and the saddle-bag came next; and the gig or buckboard and two-horse wagons, such as the men themselves might be able to provide. Here was a hint of things to come, but no change in the equipment of the average colporter came in this period. But a sudden great leap was

A GROUP OF CONVERTS IN CONNECTION WITH CHAPEL-CAR MEETINGS
AT PETALUMA, CALIFORNIA

made in taking some few of the men from foot or horse and putting them in a chapel on wheels on the railroads of the land. Dr. Wayland Hoyt, riding with his brother Colgate, a railroad man, in the latter's private car through northern Wisconsin and Minnesota, suggested the building of a missionary car to give the lonely and destitute communities an opportunity of hearing the gospel. Boston W. Smith, a worker of the Society, was called into conference. A plan of the proposed car was drawn. A "Chapel Car Syndicate" was formed in Wall Street, and on May 23, 1891, Chapel Car No. 1, Evangel, was dedicated. The worker thus equipped brought into a community his home, a church, the preacher, the literature, and other essentials so that colporter-missionary-evangelist work could go forward with advantages of unusual advertising and independence of local conditions. Thus the chapel-car feature of the Society's service came into being, one of the most effective in quickening personal and denominational interest and contributions as it has proved practical and efficient in meeting the needs of large parts of the country in more than three decades. Of course, only a few workers could have such equipment; the number of cars must necessarily be limited. Provision for the greater number of colporters waited a few years more.

Recorder of the Denomination's Advance

The Baptist Almanac, which first appeared in 1841, was published faithfully for twenty-seven years, containing registration of statistical matter, limited in quantity to be sure, but invaluable to the historian. The desire to furnish something more adequate was never lost, however. There was always the memory of a service which perhaps antedated appreciation. The volumes of the *Register* of 1833, 1836, and 1852 were at hand to spur the Society's officers to renewed trial of a larger plan. In 1867 the Society by resolution instructed the Board to publish annually a

Baptist Hand-Book, containing as complete a statistical review of the state of the denomination as can be obtained, with a condensed report of the denominational anniversaries, a statement of the benevolent and educational operation of the denomination, reports of the operations of the several State Conventions, general Associations, alphabetical lists of Baptist ministers, with their P. O. address, and such other information appropriate to such a work as they may be able to obtain.

Accordingly in 1868 appeared the American Baptist Year-Book which has been maintained as an annual publication ever since.

In 1863 The American Baptist Historical Society, which had been established as a Historical Department of the Publication Society, was recognized as an independent organization. The provision that the Publication Society should have three ex-officio representatives on the Historical Society's Board of Managers is witness to an unceasing interest in the function of conserving the records of the denomination, an interest which has proved itself real, not simply in the attendance of these men at Board meetings, but in the gift of funds to maintain the work, and in numerous publications which find their justification on the ground of service rather than on that of financial return. A review of the earlier book titles shows a wealth of Baptist historical and biographical works. In fact, the publications of the Society are in themselves a history of the denomination's progress. The thoughts, the concerns, the self-expressions of the Baptists of America, are set forth, not alone in the more serious books and pamphlets—histories, theologies, commentaries, biographies, tracts for the times—but also in fiction, even stories for Sunday schools. In the decades of Doctor Griffith the literature issued by the Society showed the trends of Baptist thinking and the means by which it was sought to meet the needs of the times.

CHAPEL-CAR AUTO No. 1

CRAWFORD MEMORIAL

IV

THE CONSUMMATIONS OF A CENTURY

1894-1924

"It has been the most adaptable of all national organizations. It has proved to be more than a great publishing concern; even more than a widely influential educational agency. It has ever been evangelistic and missionary."

"With our denominational growth, the development of our country, and the marvels of the century's discoveries, the Society has measurably kept pace. From serving afoot, on horseback, in covered wagons, the motor-boat, the automobile, and the chapel-auto, even to the latest and greatest medium—the radio; for on the Sunday preceding our hundredth anniversary, the story of the Society was broadcast from coast to coast."—*T. J. Villers, D. D., at the Northern Baptist Convention, Milwaukee, Wis., May 29, 1924.*

WILLIAM E. CHALMERS, D. D., Secretary of Religious Education
ELIZABETH M. FINN, Special Field Worker
JENNIE C. LIND, Office Secretary

IV

The passing of Doctor Griffith on October 24, 1893, was to have been expected; none the less the Board seems to have been taken by surprise, and was not able to lay its hand at once upon a suitable successor. A committee of administration conducted affairs for six months till April 2, 1894, when Colonel Charles H. Banes was elected Corresponding Secretary. A man of great ability, deservedly trusted and esteemed, and familiar with the operations of the Society, he seemed an ideal choice, but his business engagements called with an imperative voice, so his period of service was brief. On his resignation, A. J. Rowland, D. D., who had been a member of the Board since 1875, and a writer of Sunday-school lessons and editor of important periodicals, was elected his successor, entering upon the work February 1, 1895, and serving until 1917, his being one of the longest terms of office in the first century of the Society's history, exceeded only by that of Doctor Griffith. Since his retirement two men have held the position of Corresponding Secretary.

Developments of extreme importance have marked the last third of the Society's first hundred years.

First in time at least is the completion and maintenance of the Society's own printing-house. In Doctor Griffith's last years a fund was reserved for the erection of such a building. In 1896 this plant was completed and occupied—the present Judson Press Building, at Juniper and Lombard Streets, a noble structure, six stories in height, one hundred feet from the ground to the eaves, with floor space of 50,000 square feet, thoroughly equipped with the best up-to-date appliances for printing and publishing, and housing not only the manufacturing departments, but the departments of distribution as well.

Each machine is equipped with individual motors, the electricity coming from generators in the plant. Five complete periodicals are produced every second. A book of three hundred pages can be printed in less than ten minutes.

It was providential that this building was nearly in readiness for its purpose early in 1896, for in February of that year, a fearful disaster befell in the destruction by fire of the much prized headquarters at 1420 Chestnut Street. Originating next door the flames ate quickly, consuming not only the building but many records and historical collections, both of the Society and of its child, the Historical Society. The emergency brought into high relief the energy and efficiency of the Society's officers and workers. There was no interruption in business. Temporary offices were opened near-by, a printing-house was subsidized, orders were filled from stock held at the branches, books and periodicals were reprinted from plates rescued from the debris. No appeal was made to the denomination for help, the Society, even in the hour of its greatest catastrophe, adhering to its policy of never asking the churches to pay its business debts, and at the same time shouldering the burden of deficits in its missionary department.

A new, much larger structure, known as the Crozer Building, was erected on the same site, at 1420 Chestnut Street, at an expense of $550,000. This was occupied in 1898, but in 1906, on account of the great increase of land values in the immediate neighborhood, it was deemed wise to sell, and to erect a new building elsewhere. The Society took temporary quarters on Chestnut Street for about two years, and then occupied, in 1908, its present headquarters building, The Roger Williams Building, 1701-1703 Chestnut Street.

The Northern Baptist Convention

Like the other national Baptist organizations of the North the Publication Society was profoundly interested in the formation of the Northern Baptist Convention, which was de-

SELDON L. ROBERTS, Director of Leadership Training
MILDRED E. ADAMS, Librarian, Religious Education Department

signed to bring unity and cooperation where formerly had been competition for constituency and support. It united heartily in the call for the preliminary convention at Washington which resulted in the new organization of Northern Baptists, and its Corresponding Secretary made one of the two set addresses favoring and urging the plan. As one of the five cooperating organizations within the Convention, the Publication Society has received new commissions of great importance which in a very true sense are denominational authorizations for enlargement of the work it has been carrying forward throughout its long history.

Religious Education

In the very beginning of its years the Society manifested a keen interest in young people, and sought to meet their needs by literature provided especially for them—both papers and books. After 1840, Sunday-school library books in increasing numbers were issued, and from the first publication of *The Young Reaper* by the Society in 1857 papers in variety adapted to the ages and degrees of attainment of the boys and girls were assured. The chief object of the Society, as stated by one of its statesmen Secretaries, J. M. Peck, is to make the denomination, " and all others over whom we have influence, a reading, thinking, working, and devotedly religious people." The idea and the ideal of real religious education have been alive and effective within the Society all through its decades. Therefore it was necessary that it should become a Sunday-school society, in the language of Benjamin Griffith, preeminently such. That is, it should shape its efforts to make approach to the young people and establish educational relations with them. Therefore, in the van of the young people's movement in the last decades of the nineteenth century were the Society's leaders. The Society, through Doctor Griffith, called a convention at Chicago, and lent itself in every possible way to further the working of the elements which had issue

in the formation of the Baptist Young People's Union of America in 1890. When this organization became financially embarrassed, in 1909, the Publication Society enabled it to pay its debts by purchase of its stock and good-will for the sum of $20,000. In January, 1909, in response to overtures of the Baptist Young People's Union of America, arrangements were consummated whereby it was agreed

> that the Young People's Union should "transfer its educational and organizing work to The American Baptist Publication Society which shall then create a Department of Young People's Work, it being understood that the B. Y. P. U. of A. shall continue as an organized body with such functions as may be agreed upon by the B. Y. P. U. of A. and The American Baptist Publication Society.

On February 9 the Executive Committee of the Northern Baptist Convention approved the transfer in a resolution which was submitted to the Northern Convention on June 26 and adopted, as follows: [1]

> *Resolved,* That, with the conviction that the whole matter of education in our churches needs careful consideration and readjustment, under existing circumstances, we recommend that the Executive Committee of the Northern Baptist Convention approve of the proposed arrangement between the Baptist Young People's Union of America and The American Baptist Publication Society by which the educational and organization work of the Baptist Young People's Union of America is transferred to The American Baptist Publication Society on the basis of the Philadelphia agreement.

The Publication Society organized, therefore, a Department of Young People's Work. Already, in 1907, the Society had established a national training institute for Sunday-school officers and teachers. The plan was to conduct the work somewhat on the Chautauqua lines, offering a scheme of study in Sunday-school pedagogy, the Bible, general church history, and Baptist history and doctrine, with certificates and diplomas on the completion of the course or courses. The necessary literature was provided. In 1911, the Young People's Work

[1] Annual of the Northern Baptist Convention, 1909, p. 57.

THOMAS S. YOUNG, D. D., Director of Vacation Church Schools and Week-day Church Schools

MILDRED E. ADAMS, Office Secretary

and the teacher-training work were combined under one departmental secretary, who was asked to unify the educational work of the Society and to enlarge it as the needs of the denomination might require. The Northern Baptist Convention, at its meeting in Des Moines, in 1912, welcomed "the effort of the Society to unify the educational work of the church, Sunday school, Baptist Young People's Union, and mission-study class." The changes that were instituted were signalized not only by a change in title of some of the Society's field workers—no longer "Sunday School Missionaries" but "Directors of Religious Education"—but by the erection of more exacting standards of fitness, applying both to the field men and to the assistants of the secretary in the divisions of the department.

New divisions have been added as needs have been discovered, and methods have been developed, as, for example, that of Daily Vacation Bible Schools. These schools originated among Baptists—in the Epiphany Baptist Church, New York City, July, 1898. Dr. R. G. Boville, of the New York City Baptist Mission Society, took the lead in putting the method into wide use. In 1914, the Northern Convention instructed "The Publication Society to look into the advisability of caring for a more systematic development of the Daily Vacation Bible Schools." In 1915, the Convention voted that

> this work be commended to the consideration of The American Baptist Publication Society and that the Social Service Commission be authorized to make such arrangements with the Society as may be desirable for the promotion of this important educational and social work.

The Society entered upon the new work with its accustomed vigor, but after all, only as part of a much broader plan—an element in a growing scheme of week-day religious education. At present the department's activities cover teacher-training, church vacation schools and week-day religious education, Sunday-school work for New Americans, training-school promotion, children's work, Sunday-school advisors,

and correspondence courses for workers and ministers. Cooperative relations are maintained with State Conventions and the Standard City Mission Societies.

Social Education

With tract No. 2, named in the catalog of 1826 as "Dwight on Drunkenness," the Society entered with definite decision upon social service. Perhaps no such description of the purpose would have been given then, but it fits what was done by that tract and by a book in 1830 (the earliest book with the exception of volumes of tracts ever handled by the Society—the plates being obtained from another publisher), which bore a title characteristic of the times, "Wisdom's Voice to the Rising Generation on Intemperance," quite as well as it describes the work done by the Social Service Department in helping to secure adoption of the Eighteenth Amendment in 1918 and 1919, or in securing law enforcement in 1924. Certainly the discerning minds of leading men in the Society saw the relation of its work to "social evils" in 1839, calling them by this name:

> How absurd the infatuation which would hoard treasures for a future generation, when the problem is yet to be solved whether the leveling spirit of infidelity shall not ere long break down the barriers of law and order and revel in the possession of these accumulations which, if earlier and more faithfully used, would have cured these social evils.

Practical Christian effort is the logical outcome of the religious education the Society has been carrying forward—justice in the church and in society.

New emphasis upon the social spirit of the gospel began to find organized expression in America some thirty years ago. A number of Baptist leaders in the ministry and in the schools were active with voice and pen to push the social contents of the gospel into prominence. At the first regular meeting of the Northern Convention in Oklahoma in 1908, by resolution a standing committee on social service was appointed, and year

MEME BROCKWAY, General Director of Children's Work
MARION GRAY, Office Secretary

by year has made report of its study and of progress in the churches and in the world. In May, 1912, at the meeting held in Des Moines, the Convention adopted a resolution authorizing its committee to make with the Publication Society such arrangements as seemed desirable for carrying on social service work. In the following September, a Department of Social Service and Brotherhood was created.

The growing interest in social service has made necessary the recognition of two distinct but supplementary aspects of the work, that of education and that of application. The first part belonged naturally to the Publication Society; the second, by agreement, was undertaken by the Home Mission Society, which created, in 1919, a Department of Social Service and Rural Community Work to deal especially with the country church and rural life, but also to study city conditions and to develop community churches. The Publication Society then reorganized its social service work, and has given special attention, first, to interpret the social ideal as contained in the Scriptures and especially in the life and teachings of Christ, and secondly, to study the social needs of men with a view to discover the deeper meanings in the unrest of the world, and to suggest some of the changes that are necessary that there may be a more truly Christian social order. By literature and by living speech the results of the study are spread, not only among Baptists, but in wider circles, for the department cooperates with other denominational and interdenominational agencies that are working toward the same great social goals. With the Society's Department of Religious Education the Secretary of Social Education collaborates in providing courses in social education and service in institutes and assemblies; to the Department of Sunday School Publications he furnishes articles bearing upon the various forms of social service and courses for Sunday schools. As temperance legislation is ahead of temperance education, and a most serious situation has therefore developed in the country, the department, in

cooperation with similar departments of other religious bodies, is devoting much time and energy to develop an informed and active conviction and conscience that will make the people more thoroughly, more practically, sympathetic with the best ideals in law.

Sunday School Publications

In 1884 the Society recognized that "each natural grade in the Sunday school had its appropriate teaching material," and endeavor was made to supply that which fitted the different grades, with excellent results. But the ideal waited for the outcome of further discerning study and for cultivation of a demand. Series of graded lessons were introduced—the Blakeslee Lessons and the series issued by the Chicago Press, eventually known as the Constructive Bible Series. The support of the International Sunday School Association was given the idea in 1908. The Society's editor of Sunday-school publications furthered the advance by establishing in 1909 the Keystone International Graded Series. It was found impossible to cooperate with a syndicate, for no arrangement could be made that would permit Baptist editorship, and it was the Society's belief that the lesson treatment should not be merely upon educational, but preeminently upon evangelical lines. The aim was to provide lessons which recognize for children, as well as for older people, the necessity of the work of the Holy Spirit in regeneration, and which teach fully and clearly the fundamental facts of the gospel. Neither labor nor expense was spared through the years, the Series not being completed until 1917. Then began a work of revision and rewriting. The department itself was thoroughly reorganized and put upon a most thoroughly modern basis, with a new group of editors with whom were associated specialists in the age groups they were asked to serve. Some old publications were discontinued, several new ones were inaugurated. A New Keystone Series of International Graded Lessons was

SAMUEL ZANE BATTEN, D. D., Social Education Secretary
ANNIE L. MACLAUGHLIN, Office Secretary

begun, and at the present writing is approaching completion. The courses already issued are conceded by specialists in religious education to be the best closely graded material. A series of Judson Training Manuals is also in progress. Week-day and Vacation School Courses have been provided. The Department keeps its product in conformity with the most recent results of study of child life and Sunday school pedagogy, and adapted to secure five great advantages for Baptist schools: (1) To perpetuate Baptist doctrines; (2) to strengthen Baptist churches in holding these doctrines; (3) to promote the enterprises of the denomination; (4) to provide and prepare Baptist leaders for the denomination; (5) to cooperate with every Christian force in forwarding the kingdom of God.

Colportage

Some important changes in colportage were introduced in the last third of the Society's first century.

The first was in physical equipment whereby fields of work were made more readily accessible, and the worker's energies were reserved for his real business with the people instead of being used so largely in transporting his burden of literature and himself.

The chapel car has already been mentioned. In the nature of things there could be few of these churches on wheels. The conditions that made them necessary are passing; there are no longer so many new railroads of great mileage with numerous new churchless towns to be occupied. But there was and is need for many conveyances, smaller and more mobile than the cars, to equip the average colporter and enable him to reach communities large and small, on or off the railroad.

Therefore colportage wagons were provided. Some of the men at an early period had used horses and saddle-bags, or horse-drawn vehicles of some description. But in 1897, a two-horse wagon especially built to serve the purposes of a Sunday-school missionary and colporter was given to the Rev.

E. M. Stephenson, in Plainwell, Michigan, who had conceived the idea and had enlisted the aid of some Sunday schools and a generous woman. A better wagon was obtained the next year. So convincing was the proof of practical usefulness that the Society at once rapidly multiplied the number of wagons. Within three years there were eighteen; by 1912, fifty-five were in service. The wagon carried the colporter's bed and board and the material equipment for his work, making him ready for a stay of a day or a month, for a prayer-meeting, a Sunday-school convention or a protracted meeting, for gospel work by the wayside or at mine, mill, lumber-camp, or country school. In 1913, the automobile began to be used, and now in 1924 has entirely displaced the wagon; it is interesting to note that in Latin America some Bible-workers are provided with mules.

For some years, on waterways in regions on the Pacific coast, gospel cruisers were employed, large motor-boats built as floating parsonages and churches to enable gospel work at points on rivers and bays that were not accessible in any other way. But with the construction of good roads and bridges, the need for use of this picturesque but eminently practical method of colportage passed, and the boats were sold.

The automobiles in colporter service are mostly Ford sedans, too small for a kind of work that has been found necessary. Something that should combine features of the chapel car with the mobility of an auto was required, and was provided, in 1923—the auto chapel car.

The interior equipment and furnishings consist of a driver's seat for two people, a 50-gallon fresh-water tank and waste, a wardrobe and bookcase built into the frame, a couch heavily trimmed (convertible at night into a double bed) and covered with imitation leather, drawers for linen, etc., an awning over the rear platform which is used for preaching purposes, a washroom and toilet, also a three-burner gas-stove, and a folding-table. The rear section is so constructed as to be convertible from a bedroom during the night to a reception-room during the day, and is furnished with wicker chairs and other furniture. A specially constructed tent, 30x60, to accommodate about one hundred persons, is a part of the auto

JOHN W. CLINGER, Advertising Manager
DOROTHY H. BOWMAN, Office Secretary

equipment, the tent being so arranged that the rear of the chapel car auto, with its pulpit platform, can be backed into the end of the tent and become the pulpit platform inside.

There is an Estey pulpit organ, a Coleman lantern lighting system, collapsible chairs, and every necessary convenience for the work of evangelism in lonely places.

The second change affecting colportage was in inter-Society relations.

Colportage has always been missionary work. Recognition that the colporters circulating literature were not mere " book-pedlers " but real missionaries whose business was to bring the messages of the literature into contact with minds and hearts and have it issue in changed lives, brought increasingly hearty support of the Society's work. In 1846 so clearly did a corresponding secretary of The American Baptist Home Mission Society see the essential nature of colportage, that he called the Publication Society " the right arm of home missions." In 1874, the report of the Board of the Publication Society reiterated the fact that this is

strictly and eminently a missionary Society. Nor is its mission work the same as that of the other great missionary organizations. The Home Mission Society directs its efforts mainly toward the support of local pastors laboring with feeble churches. It does not employ colporters, or strictly Sunday-school missionaries. It is preeminently a *church* missionary society, doing a vast, and a blessed work. This Society on the contrary, is emphatically a *family* and *Sunday-school* missionary society. Its work consists in three things: 1. In preaching the gospel from house to house by a band of devoted Missionary Colporters; who unite with personal efforts to convert the inmates, the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, and the dissemination of a gospel literature.

2. In sustaining Sunday-school Missionaries to form new schools, to strengthen and improve old ones, and to organize the forces of the different States for efficient Sunday-school work.

3. In making grants of small libraries to poor ministers and Sunday schools and of tracts to pastors, and to missionaries of other Societies and conventions.

This was the understanding which guided the Society in its mission work for the generation that followed. Some misun-

derstanding arose, however, and a conference of representative committees of the Home Mission Society and of the Publication Society was called in Philadelphia, on February 2, 1899, when a basis of agreement was reached, which was adopted by the Boards of the two Societies the same month. In this agreement the duties of the two Societies were defined as follows:

(1) That The American Baptist Home Mission Society shall continue its distinctive work of preaching the gospel, organizing churches and Sunday schools in connection therewith, settling pastors, building meeting-houses, employing missionaries, and conducting educational work among the freedmen, Indians, Mexicans, etc., as heretofore. (2) That The American Baptist Publication Society shall continue its distinctive work as the Publishing and Bible Society of our denomination, and also its distinctive work of organizing and establishing Sunday schools and employing colporters. (3) That The American Baptist Publication Society in continuing its chapel-car service, shall so far work in cooperation with the Home Mission Society as to consult with the general secretary or district missionaries of that Society in regard to fields to be visited and to refer, as far as practicable, to these missionaries the baptism of converts, the organization of churches, the settling of pastors, and the building of meeting-houses. (4) That in appeals for contributions, each Society shall emphasize its own specific and distinctive work.

Later, after some years of study by committees of the Northern Baptist Convention, and long-continued discussions on the floor of the Convention, the Law Committee of the Convention advised (in 1918) that in its opinion

the consolidation of The American Baptist Home Mission Society and The American Baptist Publication Society cannot be effected, and that the proposed consolidation be dismissed from further consideration.

A Committee of Reference was appointed (in 1917) in connection with whose advice the Home Mission and Publication Societies should carry on their respective activities. On October 23 and 24, 1918, a joint committee composed of representatives of the Boards of the two Societies met in Philadelphia, and on the evening of October 24 the Boards and officers of the two organizations for the first time in all their history met

H. WATSON BARRAS, D. D., Superintendent Sales Promotion Department

JOHN BERSCH, Field Representative

ELIZABETH WHITAKER, Office Secretary

together, at the Union League Club, the Publication Society acting as host. After dinner the Boards adopted the report of their conference committee, covering the following suggestions:

1. That the chief task of the Publication Society is religious education in the home, the Bible school, the church, and all related societies; it being understood that the plans for such education be made and carried out in cooperation with all national and State societies and agencies involved.

2. That, in conjunction with the Home Mission Society, the Publication Society make the State Conventions and Standard City Mission Societies their legal agents on the basis of the chapter on "Conditions of Agency in the Standards of the Home Mission Society."

3. That the Home Mission Society and the Publication Society unite in the support of the State Secretaries of certain as yet financially weak Conventions on the basis of their respective appropriations in these Conventions.

4. That the Home Mission Society and the Publication Society have joint superintendents whenever such superintendency is necessary for field oversight.

5. That the Publication Society make the Home Mission Society its agent in the oversight and direction of the missionary activities of all its colporters; that the payment of the salaries of such colporters from the income of trust funds shall be made by the Publication Society to the Home Mission Society as required, each requisition to contain a full statement covering the name, service, and the amount due each colporter covered by the requisition; that the colporter shall continue to perform the following tasks for the Publication Society: the selling of the Society's books and literature, the promoting the circulation of its periodicals, and the distribution of Bibles and other literature; that in view of the double function of these workers they shall be known as colporter-missionaries; that nothing in the points agreed upon shall be interpreted as in any way restricting the full and free development of the business department of the Publication Society. That it is specified by the Publication Society in committing direct supervision and oversight of its missionary and colportage work to the Home Mission Society, it does so with the strict understanding that the Publication Society is the denominational agency for the work of religious education, such as Sunday-school and young people's work, social service education and Baptist Brotherhood as defined in Suggestion 1.

6. That the Publication Society transfer its specific social work, such as rural and urban social work which naturally grows out of the missionary task, with the consent of the Northern Baptist Convention, to the Home Mission Society, the particular delimitations to be determined from time

to time by a conference committee; social service education to continue a proper function of the Publication Society.

Adjustment of the question as to the work of chapel cars was reached at a later date, to become effective May 1, 1920, as follows:

I. *Financial:* 1. The salaries and personal traveling expenses of the missionaries on chapel cars are to be paid by the Home Mission Society.

2. All expenses on account of repairs, up-keep, and transportation of chapel cars to be paid by the Publication Society.

3. Property rights in the chapel cars to remain unimpaired in the Publication Society.

4. The cars to carry the names of both Societies, to indicate that they are cooperating in this service.

II. *Personnel:* 1. Appointments. Insomuch as the missionary in charge is not only responsible to the Home Mission Society for the way in which he carries on his work as missionary, but also to the Publication Society for the care and oversight of the chapel car entrusted to him, his appointment to be a joint appointment and to be made only when both Societies are agreed to it.

2. Reports to be rendered by the missionary in charge to the two Societies jointly as may be required.

III. *Administration.* 1. By the Societies: The chapel car and missionary in charge to be subject always to transfer to another State or to be withdrawn from service at any time by joint action of the Home Mission and Publication Societies.

(1) In all questions as to the missionary aspects of the services to be rendered, the Home Mission Society to have primary jurisdiction, provided only that such service be kept within the limits prescribed by the railroads and the conditions upon which they will grant special transportation rates for the cars.

(2) In all questions involving the transportation of chapel cars the Publication Society to have primary jurisdiction and to conduct all dealings with the railroads, including those concerning such questions as to the nature of the service to be rendered, the kind of places to be served, the length of stop at a given place, and any other question that may affect in any way the railroads' attitude with respect to the moving of chapel cars for us. Should the Home Mission Society, or any State Convention, desire to take up with the railroads any matter relating to a chapel car, it will do so through the Publication Society.

2. By the State Convention: (1) The chapel car and the worker in charge to be put at the service of the State Convention while within the Convention's territory and to be under the immediate direction of the executive officer of the Convention.

WORKERS IN THE SALES PROMOTION DEPARTMENT

(2) Requests for the service of a chapel car to be made by executive officer of the Convention to the Joint Division Secretary in whose territory the Convention is, the latter to forward the request both to the Home Mission and Publication Societies with his recommendation.

In all of these discussions and conclusions it is evident that if any fault attached to the Publication Society, it was not that the missionary spirit was lacking, but that missionary zeal characterized its endeavors and that wise plans energetically pushed by devoted men procured results of large moment for the spread of the denomination and the Christianizing of the country. Missionary, energetic, and efficient the Society may claim that its workers have proved themselves to be.

Books

In 1889 the task of revising and completing the work of Old Testament translation begun by the American Bible Union was committed to Professors B. C. Taylor, J. R. Sampey, W. R. Harper, and I. M. Price. Professor J. M. P. Smith revised the proof of Doctor Harper's translation of Isaiah and the Minor Prophets. Progress was slow, and it was not until 1912 that the Improved Edition of the Bible, containing the work of these scholars in the Old Testament portion and that of Alvah Hovey, H. G. Weston, and J. A. Broadus, in the New Testament parts (first issued in 1891), finally appeared. Of the translation Professor Charles P. Fagnani, Professor of Old Testament Literature and Exegesis in Union Theological Seminary, in an article in *The Survey,* dated July 1, 1924, says, repeating the verdict of other scholars not connected with our churches, that it is "perhaps the most satisfactory of any."

One might suppose that with this superb evidence of the desire of Baptists to have the Scriptures in the best possible English translation and of the competency of Baptist scholars to produce that which would meet the most exacting tests of worth, the Society would rest content. But in 1924, to sig-

nalize the completion of its first hundred years of work, the Society issued the Centenary Translation of the New Testament, Volume I, containing the Gospels, appearing in February, followed in December by volume II, containing the remaining books of the New Testament. The translator was Mrs. Helen Barrett Montgomery, already widely known as a missionary executive, author, and platform speaker. Designed to promote popular reading of the Scriptures, and to that end given a typographical dress that would assist the average reader to quicker grasp of the material, the translation at once received very favorable comment from scholars who compared it with other modern translations, and remarked the more exact faithfulness to the original displayed in Mrs. Montgomery's work.

Work on the American Commentary on the Old Testament has been in progress. The two volumes containing the Pentateuch stand in their final form. Many of the remaining parts of the Commentary have been issued in temporary binding, others are in type; only the failure of some of the denomination's busy scholars to send in their manuscripts delays the appearance of a group of exegetical helps to study of the Old Testament which the Society hopes will find the approval already given the splendid volumes of comment in the same series on the New Testament.

In general church history and denominational history the Society has built up an admirable library, from the pens of Vedder, Newman, Riley, and others; thus has been more nobly accomplished the purpose that has been in mind through nearly all of the century, to put into circulation adequate printed records of the story of our people. Some of these histories have taken and hold high place as authoritative text-books in seminaries and other schools. In theology also the publications of the last three decades have been of unusual interest and worth, as the names of the writers—E. H. Johnson, A. H. Strong, and E. Y. Mullins—suffice to make known.

TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT

At the rear, from the left

ELVIN L. RUTH, ASSISTANT TREASURER

A. R. MATTHEWS, ACCOUNTANT, GENERAL FIELD DEPARTMENT

The Society has steadily kept in mind the commission to produce a book literature that will serve the interests of the denomination. Hence the large number of study-books for young people, and the teacher-training manuals—works on Christian evidences, Baptist history and doctrine and principles, the Bible and the monuments of the days when the Bible was being written, the life of Christ and the acts of modern apostles on the mission fields, church hymnals, and song-books for departments in the Sunday school.

Our peoples of foreign speech have not been forgotten. Within the last ten years the Society has issued the New Testament in Polish and Hungarian, the Gospels in Slovak, Polish, Hungarian, and Russian, and the Gospel of John in Bohemian and Ao Naga, the last named being a special limited edition bound in khaki for use by Naga soldiers from a Baptist mission field in Asia on the front in the World War. The Russian Bible came from the press in 1922, and the Bible in Hungarian and the New Testament in Russian are being prepared. Hymnals in Polish and in Lithuanian have recently appeared and another in Slovak-Bohemian is planned. Tracts are issued in eighteen languages other than English.

While a business organization must consider the probabilities of the market before embarking upon an enterprise, the Society has put service above financial returns, and not infrequently issues books, not because a return in money is expected from the investment, but because it seems a real service may be rendered, and the loss is never taken to the denomination with an appeal that it be made good. The aim of the Book Department is to be the publishing agency of the denomination, and during the last decade more and more of the printing of some of the national Societies as well as of the Northern Baptist Convention has been committed to its care.

In 1919 the Society approved the following statement of principles adopted by the Board of Managers for the guidance of its Book Department:

This department seeks to serve the Baptist churches. It desires to have part in producing the books that will promote the best interests of the Baptist people and the kingdom of God. It wishes to serve the whole Baptist people. Baptists do not all think alike. Convictions differ. There are centrifugal tendencies. There are groupings of minds. It does not seem Baptistic that the Society should serve one wing of the people to the exclusion of another, or be a mouthpiece for one group and deny voice to another. Not everything that might be written should be published; offerings must be sifted; there must be a Publication Committee charged with this responsibility. But surely the great groups of our people may express themselves through their Publication Society. For the opinions thus expressed the Society should not be held responsible. Such publications should be regarded as so many endeavors on the part of our people to have themselves understood and to understand one another.

By these principles the Book Publishing Committee has been led in its decisions.

Business and Finance

In 1841, the Report of the Board closed with appeal and prediction:

If the denomination expect the Society to prosper, and to effect the object of its organization, a considerable amount of capital is required. . . When this is supplied, the operations of the Society will sustain themselves, without making further demands upon the liberality of the churches, except for such free grants as may occasionally be called for. . . In this it differs from every other benevolent enterprise. Once liberally establish it, and it will perpetuate itself.

The writer of those words could not anticipate to what largeness the benevolent, or missionary, work the Society—the portion of its work aside from that which may be called strictly business—would grow in eighty-four years, and how necessary would be great and yet greater endowments and annual contributions from the churches for colportage and Bible work and religious and social education. But he and his colaborers were men of business sense, and their prediction has been wonderfully fulfilled. The Society did receive capital—much of it from men on its Board who knowing intimately what the Society was doing, gladly invested themselves and their money to make it possible that more of the same sort of

HEADQUARTERS BOOKSTORE

Joseph P. Hughes, Manager

results should be achieved. And once the Publication Society was established as a business with a home and working capital, it maintained itself and perpetuated itself. It did more. In its first fifty years it gave to its missionary department $100,000. In the next twenty-five years, it gave $150,000. In its one-hundredth year, that is, in the single year from May 1, 1923, to April 30, 1924, it provided for its own Bible and Field, Religious Education, and Social Education work the sum of $90,000 and gave $22,500 to the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society, devoting for benevolent and missionary work in a single year a larger sum than it had been able to give in its first fifty years of struggle to have the denomination see the possibilities of the engine of usefulness the creative missionary spirit of American Baptists of the era of Judson and Rice called into being. And this large gift was made in a year when the business was providing for the final payment of a big mortgage the Society had been obliged to put on its building in the trying years of the World War! The men of 1841 "died in faith, not having received the things promised." But that which they saw afar off has come to be.

The fraternal interest of the Society in the establishment of Baptist publication houses on foreign mission fields has already been noted—in Sweden and in Germany, when Doctor Griffith was Corresponding Secretary. In 1909, the Board set aside $500 a year, the interest on $10,000, for the support of colporters in the Chinese Empire. In 1909, a donation of $3,000 was voted to assist the China Publication Society in the erection and maintenance of a new printing-house. Two years later $500 was given to Doctor Ashmore to assist in publication of a Chinese Colloquial New Testament and $500 to assist the China Baptist Publication Society in issuing Sunday-school literature. In 1915, when the China Society through the Foreign Mission Society asked aid in stocking a book-store in Canton, $500 in stock was voted. All this from the funds of the Business Department.

There have been those who would refuse to the Publication Society the right to use the word "missionary" in description of any part of its work or any of its workers. Yet from the beginnings of its history, when in its feebleness it answered with help to Judson in Burma and Oncken in Germany, down through the years of growing strength when it placed Wiberg in Sweden and Van Meter in Italy, even to the last decades when some thousands of dollars of its *Business* Department's funds have gone to help in publishing and distributing the gospel word in China, it has worked hand in hand with men on the *foreign* field whose right to be called missionaries of the Cross all will gladly recognize; and the nature of its work in America is written large in the multitudes of lives it has touched with the message of redemption and in the Sunday schools and churches which owe their existence and worth to its men and its gifts. Whatever honorable descriptive name may be allowed or denied, it is sufficient to have had Judson testify to the usefulness of the tracts sent to him; to have Oncken's word of appreciation, "We cannot do without you"; to sit, as the writer sat, in churches which the Society's colporter Wiberg established in Stockholm, and hear the word of Christ freely proclaimed; to have a secretary of The American Baptist Home Mission Society affirm that the Publication Society is "the right arm of home missions"; to have passed means and materials to workers in the homeland and abroad; to be the instrument through which the Christian mind of brethren and sisters works a will to make Christ known; to know that the spirit of fellowship with the apostles of the Lord abides in the Society. The motive of cooperation with the missionary heart and hand of the churches in work all over the world—call that motive missionary, benevolent, what any one will—is the main-spring of action in the Board and the business side of the affairs these brethren supervise, no less than in the Bible, colportage, and educational work they direct.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGE

THE ROGER WILLIAMS BUILDING

EDITH L. DEWEY, OPERATOR

The Society has prospered. The business of its first year showed receipts of $373.80; of its one-hundredth, receipts of $1,572,822.59.

The Business Department has a capital of $1,917,889.53; the General Field Department has funds of various kinds amounting to $2,189,288.85. But the prosperity of the Society is the advantage of the churches. Every cent of profit beyond the amount necessary to provide adequate maintenance and extension of the equipment goes into the denomination's work.

V

THE ROSTER OF THE CENTURY

Ideals work when they draw men toward themselves.—*Shailer Mathews.*

O perfect life in perfect labor writ.
—*Sidney Lanier.*

Our children are born to higher destinies than their fathers; they will be actors in a far advanced period of the church and of the world. Let their minds be formed, their hearts prepared, and their characters molded for the scenes and the duties of a brighter day.—*Youth's Companion, 1827.*

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT

THE JUDSON PRESS BUILDING

From right to left: Hilmar Schneider, Superintendent; Fred C. Cook, Cost Accountant; A. D. Syckelmore, Assistant Superintendent

V

The history of the Society is the story of men. It can never be told in any adequate way except in terms of biography. It is much more than a tale of presses and print; it is a human interest story, warm with the heart's blood, vibrant with the energies of men with a vision and with a will to make the dream come true. This was so of the earlier years when there was so pitifully little of physical equipment to which the Society's name might be attached; it is so today when there are fine buildings and a wealth of material things to which men may point when the organization is mentioned and inquiry is made as to its place and worth.

This is to say that the full, true story of the Society cannot be told. Were there space for all the biographies that might perhaps be assembled, something of the human factor in the making and maintenance of the Society would still elude, and with that unrevealed one could not feel that justice had been done. If names are given, if life stories are suggested, they are but representative. Not every stone in a building can be the corner-stone or have place in the façade. If the lives of some persons are written in books, the lives of others are written, with these, in the characters and deeds of men and multitudes, though there they are often so much less easily read that they seem to have been lost from record.

Over six hundred names are mentioned in the following lists of officers of the Society, members of the Board of Managers, officers of the Board, and heads of departments of the Society's work. As will be remarked these are the names of those in what are esteemed the higher places of responsibility. How much longer the lists must be to include all who have been in the Society's employ, and ought justly to be enrolled be-

cause they too have held responsible place and have filled it as discharging high trust!

PRESIDENTS

Obadiah Brown, D. D., 1824-1826.
John L. Dagg, D. D., 1827.
Elisha Cushman, D. D., 1828-1829.
William T. Brantly, D.D., 1830-1837.
George B. Ide, D. D., 1838-1841.
Rufus Babcock, Jr., D. D., 1842-1843.
Joseph H. Kennard, D. D., 1844-1854.
Hon. Mason Brayman, 1855-1856.,
Hon. James H. Duncan, 1857-1860.
William Phelps, 1861-1871.
Sansom Talbot, D. D., 1872.
Hon. James L. Howard, 1873-1877.
Samuel A. Crozer, 1878.
George T. Hope, 1879-1881.
E. L. Hedstrom, 1882.
John H. Deane, 1883-1884.
Samuel A. Crozer, 1885-1911.
W. H. Doane, 1912.
J. W. Brougher, D. D., 1913-1917.
W. B. Riley, D. D., 1917-1918.
W. G. Brimson, 1918-1920.
F. H. Robinson, 1920.
Levi S. Chapman, 1921-1923.
W. H. Geistweit, 1923-1924.

VICE-PRESIDENTS

Adams, Seymour W., D. D., 1861-1864.
Alderson, L. A., 1864.
Anderson, Martin B., D. D., LL. D., 1854.
Arbuckle, C. N., D. D., 1922-1924.
Armitage, Thomas, D. D., 1860-1895.
Babcock, Rufus, Jr., D. D., 1840-1841.
Bailey, A. S., 1840-1841.
Bailey, Silas, D. D., 1856-1865.
Baker, Hon. A. L., 1856, 1858-1860.
Barton, David R., 1848-1850.
Batcheller, J., 1851-1854.
Beebee, Alexander M., LL. D., 1843.
Bellows, A. J., M. D., 1853-1854, 1856-1859.
Benedict, D., D. D., 1861.
Bleeker, Garret N., 1851-1853.
Boardman, George Dana, D. D., 1864-1865.
Boone, Levi D., 1859-1860.
Booth, John, 1840-1844.
Brantly, William T., D. D., 1827-1829.
Brimson, W. G., Esq., 1904-1909.
Brown, Joseph E., 1883-1884.
Bryce, John, 1824.
Buck, William C., D. D., 1840-1843.
Caswell, Alexis, D. D., 1856-1865.
Chapman, Levi S., 1823.
Charlton, Rev. Frederick, 1856-1858.
Cheney, David B., D. D., 1859-1865.
Church, Hon. E. C., 1912.
Clarke, Miner G., D. D., 1857-1860.
Colby, Hon. Anthony, 1856-1861.
Colver, Nathaniel, D. D., 1860.
Conaut, John A., 1840-1844.
Cornelius, Samuel, D. D., 1825-1826.
Cornell, Thomas, 1875-1877.
Corwin, R. G., 1853-1854.
Crane, James C., 1840.
Crane, William, 1840-1844, 1852-1854, 1864-1865.
Cresswell, Samuel J., 1840-1844, 1852-1854, 1864-1865.
Croskey, Henry, 1862-1865.

MAIL ORDER DEPARTMENT
LOOKING EAST
THE JUDSON PRESS BUILDING

Crowell, William, D. D., 1861.
Crozer, John P., 1851-1865.
Crozer, Samuel A., 1866-1867, 1879-1884.
Cummings, E. E., D. D., 1850.
Cuthbert, James H., D. D., 1860.
Dagg, John L., D. D., 1830-1836, 1840-1843.
Davies, J. M., 1859-1865.
Davis, George F., 1865, 1876-1878.
Davis, Hon. Isaac, 1840-1849, 1857-1865.
Davis, Mial, 1873-1874.
Davis, S., 1862-1865.
Day, Albert, 1850-1854.
Day, Larkin B., 1878.
Deane, John H., 1882.
Doane, W. Howard, Mus. Doc., 1879, 1901-1911.
Dowling, John, D. D., 1852-1854.
Draper, L. C., 1861-1865.
Duncan, Hon. James H., 1850-1856.
Dunlevy, A. H., 1856-1860.
Eddy, Daniel C., D. D., 1860-1861.
Eddy, Herman J., D. D., 1861.
Edwards, Benjamin F., 1840-1841.
Ellyson, Hon. H. K., 1882.
Everts, William W., D. D., 1860-1868.
Ewart, Hon. Thomas W., 1855-1861.
Fleischmann, Rev. Konrad A., 1859-1861.
Fletcher, Hon. Ryland, 1859-1865.
Ford, J. M., 1859-1860.
Foster, Thomas S., 1853-1854.
Frost, James M., 1844.
Gardiner, Richard, M. D., 1856-1860.
Gillette, A. D., D. D., 1852-1854, 1861.
Gillmore, Hon. Joseph A., 1864-1865.
Gillpatrick, J., 1860.
Goodman, Edward, Esq., 1880-1899.
Going, Jonathan, D. D., 1840-1844.
Green, T. P., 1841.
Greene, Prof. Samuel S., 1859.
Greenough, B., 1840-1844.
Gregory, John M., LL. D., 1873-1874.
Griggs, J. W., 1864-1865.
Grow, Fred A., 1921.
Hague, William, D. D., 1851-1854.
Harris, Hon. Ira, 1854.
Harrison, John C., D. D., 1842-1859.
Hart, H. B., 1862-1865.
Haskell, Samuel, D. D., 1856-1865.
Heck, J. M., 1875.
Hedstrom, E. L., 1880-1881.
Hinckley, F. E., 1875-1877.
Hiscox, E. T., D. D., 1901.
Holden, Charles N., 1869.
Hope, George T., 1878.
Horr, George R., D. D., 1894-1898.
Howard, Hon. James L., 1872.
Hoyt, Col. J. A., 1890-1893.
Hughes, D. C., D. D., 1900, 1902-1909.
Humphrey, Friend, 1853.
Ide, George B., D. D., 1850-1854, 1858-1860.
Jayne, David, M. D., 1854.
Jewell, Wilson, M. D., 1859-1860.
Johnson, G. G., D. D., 1920-1921.
Johnson, George J., D. D., 1856-1864.
Jones, E. D., 1870-1872.
Jones, William G., 1840-1842.
Keen, William W., 1837-1855.
Keller, Luther, 1918.
Kempton, George, D. D., 1854.
Kendrick, S. N., 1850-1854.
Kennard, Joseph H., D. D., 1837-1843, 1855-1865.
King, E. D., 1844.
Kingsley, Hon. Chester W., 1900-1903.
LaCoste, A. P., 1840-1844.
Lee, Franklin, 1854, 1859-1860.
Lemen, James, 1842.
Levering, Joshua, Esq., 1885-1909.
Lincoln, Heman, D. D., 1860.

Linnard, Hon. James M., 1850-1854, 1856-1861.
Loxley, Rev. Benjamin R., 1857-1860.
McDaniel, James, 1840-1844.
McKean, Rev. John A., 1860-1865.
McPherson, William M., 1853-1854.
Malcom, Howard, D. D., 1851-1854.
Malcom, Rev. Thomas S., 1853, 1857-1860.
Marshall, J. H., 1840-1845.
Mason, J. M., 1841.
Mauck, J. W., LL. D., 1913-1916.
Merrill, J. Warren, 1866-1871, 1878-1881.
Meyers, H. S., 1918.
Miter, M., 1856-1857.
Morgan, Ebenezer, 1883-1884.
Murdock, James N., 1856-1861.
Nichols, F. C., 1920.
Orr, David, 1840.
Owen, Ezra D., 1842-1844.
Pattison, Robert E., D. D., 1840.
Peck, John M., D. D., 1848-1854.
Peddie, John, D. D., 1879.
Perkins, Aaron, D. D., 1861-1863.
Perkins, J. C., 1842-1844.
Pettit, William V., 1860-1861.
Phelps, Sylvanus, D. D., 1859-1865.
Phelps, William, 1856-1860.
Pratt, J. C., 1852-1854.
Quincey, Josiah, 1840-1844.
Randall, James, 1872-1874.
Rhees, Morgan J., D. D., 1843-1844.
Rider, Hiram, 1840-1843.
Riley, W. B., D. D., 1915-1917.
Robinson, Ezekiel G., D. D., 1850-1852.
Ross, J. J., D. D, 1922.
Runyan, Hon. Peter P., 1843, 1856-1861.
Searles, J. W., D. D., 1896-1899.
Shadrach, William, D. D., 1844.
Shailer, William H., D. D., 1856-1861.
Shepherd, J. H., 1846-1847.
Sherwood, Adiel, D. D., 1842-1844.
Simmons, James B., D. D., 1861-1865.
Smith, Eli B., D. D., 1856-1860.
Smith, J. B., 1840-1844.
Stimson, H. K., D. D., 1865.
Stow, Baron, D. D., 1851-1854.
Strong, Frank, LL. D., 1910.
Taylor, Elisha, E. L., D. D., 1861.
Thomas, Rev. Archibald, 1840-1844.
Toebit, Rev. A. M., 1856-1858.
Tucker, H. H., D. D., LL. D., 1885-1890.
Turpin, Rev. William H., 1840-1849.
Upham, James, D. D., 1861.
Wattson, Thomas, 1845-1854, 1857-1865.
Wayland, Francis, D. D., 1840-1844, 1850-1854.
Welch, James E., D. D., 1840-1844, 1860.
Westover, Rev. J. T., 1865.
Willet, Rev. C., 1863.
Williams, Hon. J. M. S., 1857-1865.
Williams, William R., D. D., 1842-1844.
Williamson, W. J., D. D., 1913-1915.
Wilson, D. M., 1856-1865.
Wilson, Franklin, D. D., 1866-1871.
Wilson, James, 1848-1850.
Winter, Thomas, D. D., 1852-1854.
Withers, John, 1852-1854.
Woolsey, Rev. James J., 1844.
Wording, J. E., 1860.

MAIL ORDER DEPARTMENT
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GENERAL SECRETARIES

George Wood, 1824-1826.
Rev. Noah Davis, 1827-1830.
Rev. Ira M. Allen, 1831-1838.
Morgan, J. Rhees, D. D., 1840-1842.
John M. Peck, D. D., 1843-1845.
Rev. Thomas S. Malcolm, 1846-1852.
Kendall Brooks, D. D. (Associate), 1852.
Heman Lincoln, D. D., 1853.
William Shadrach, D. D., 1854-1856.
Benjamin Griffith, D. D., 1857-1893.
Col. Charles H. Banes, 1894.
A. J. Rowland, D. D., LL. D., 1895-1916.
Guy C. Lamson, D. D., 1917-1918.
Gilbert N. Brink, D. D., 1919-1923.
William H. Main, D. D., Associate General Secretary, 1922-1924.

RECORDING SECRETARIES

Isaac G. Hutton, 1824.
Joseph Thaw, 1825-1826.
Philalogus Loud, 1827-1828.
Wilson Jewell, M. D., 1831-1832, 1841.
William Ford, 1833-1840.
Morgan J. Rhees, D. D., 1840-1842.
A. P. Drew, 1842.
Levi Knowles, Jr., 1843-1845.
Clement A. Wilson, 1846-1853.
John Hanna, 1854.
George C. Baldwin, D. D., 1855-1862.
Rev. James Cooper, 1863-1869, 1878-1879.
Horatio Gates Jones, 1870-1877.
J. Howard Gendell, 1880-1888.
A. J. Rowland, D. D., 1889-1894.
J. G. Walker, D. D., 1895-1913.
B. D. Stelle, 1914-1917.
W. S. Bauer, 1917.
Wm. H. Main, D. D., 1922-.

TREASURERS

Rev. Luther Rice, 1824-1825.
Enoch Reynolds, 1826.
Samuel Huggins, 1827-1836.
William W. Keen, 1837-1855.
Charles B. Keen, 1856.
James S. Dickerson, D. D., 1857-1859.
Washington Bucher, 1860-1861.
William V. Pettit, 1862-1882.
Charles H. Banes, 1883-1897.
B. F. Dennison, 1898-1902.
Harry S. Hopper, 1903-1918.
George L. Estabrook, 1918-.

CHAIRMEN OF THE BOARD

Joseph H. Kennard, D. D., 1856, 1858-1860, 1866.
Wilson Jewell, M. D., 1857.
J. P. Crozer, 1861-1865.
William Bucknell, 1867-1871, 1877-1889.
S. A. Crozer, 1872-1874, 1890-1912.
George K. Crozer, 1912-1919.
J. P. Crozer Griffith, M. D., 1919-.

SECRETARIES OF THE BOARD

John Baumgartner, 1887-1892.
O. W. Spratt, 1893-1897.
J. G. Walker, D. D., 1898-1915.
B. D. Stelle, 1915-1916.
Daniel G. Stevens, Ph. D., 1916-.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS

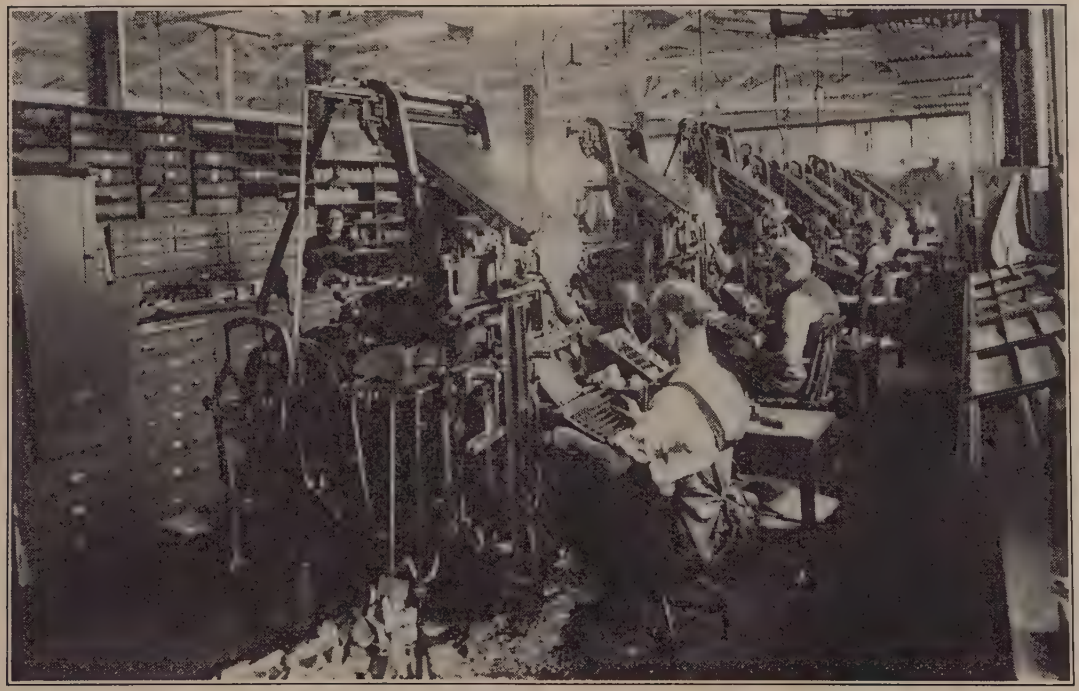
Abbott, Hon. Charles F., 1853-1897.
Adams, Geo. D., D. D., 1913-1921.
Aldrich, Rev. J., 1842-1843.
Anderson, George W., D. D., 1847-1892.
Arbuckle, Charles N., D. D., 1922-.
Armitage, Thomas, D. D., 1883-1895.
Ashton, Rev. W. E., 1827-1828, 1830-1834.
Ashton, George H., 1865.
Babcock, Rufus, D. D., 1837-1839.
Bailey, W. A., 1908-1909.
Bainbridge, H., 1917-.
Ballentine, William, 1828-1832.
Banes, Col. C. H., 1873-1894.
Banes, Mrs. C. H., 1900-1909.
Bauer, W. S., 1917-1919.
Baumgartner, John, 1887-1892.
Beckley, J. T., D. D., 1887-1894.
Beebe, G. W., 1841.
Beidleman, R. A., 1841.
Bennett, E. A., 1843.
Bitting, C. C., D. D., 1884-1896.
Boardman, G. D., D. D., 1866, 1868-1874.
Brantly, William T., D. D., 1854, 1857-1861.
Brimson, W. G., 1904-1909, 1918-1921.
Brink, Gilbert N., D. D., 1919-.
Brougher, J. W., D. D., 1913-1916.
Brower, D., 1845-1850.
Brown, Daniel, 1826.
Brown, Thomas, 1829.
Brown, T. Edwin, 1889-1896.
Bucknell, William, 1841-1889.
Bucknell, William Rufus, 1870-1874.
Burnett, E. S., 1850-1854.
Burrows, J. L., D. D., 1841-1854.
Bussier, D. P., 1844.
Butcher, Washington, 1859, 1868-1869.
Callaghan, George, 1868-1884.
Cassady, P. H., 1847-1874.
Castle, J. H., D. D., 1859-1872.
Caswell, Alexis, D. D., 1825-1826.
Cathcart, W., D. D., 1860-1883.
Cawood, Daniel, 1825-1826.
Chapman, Levi S., 1921-1923.
Charters, W. W., Ph. D., 1921-1924.
Charlton, F., 1854.
Chase, W. T., D. D., 1893-1896.
Chase, Irah, D. D., 1825.
Cheney, D. B., D. D., 1853-1858.
Clark, David, 1840-1841.
Clark, M. G., D. D., 1851-1856.
Clegg, J. W., 1920-.
Clinch, Hon. E. S., 1912.
Cole, H. F., 1918-.
Collmer, E. B., 1922-.
Cooper, Rev. George, 1875-1880.
Covel, Rev. E., 1843.
Cowe, Joseph, 1830.
Cresswell, Samuel J., 1884.
Cresswell, S. J., D. D., 1842-1849, 1855-1857.
Croskey, Henry, 1866-1867.
Crozer, G. K., 1866-1920.
Crozer, J. P., 1851-1865.
Crozer, Robert, 1896-1918.
Crozer, Samuel A., 1862-1911.

COMPOSING-ROOM

THE JUDSON PRESS BUILDING

Cushman, Elisha, D. D., 1827.
Cushman, Robert W., D. D., 1828-1838.
Cuthbert, J. H., D. D., 1855-1859.
Dagg, J. L., D. D., 1828-1829.
Dakin, E. Leroy, 1923-.
Davis, John, 1827-1845.
Davis, J. C., 1836-1855, 1857-1865.
Day, Henry, D. D., 1855-1859.
Dennis, Rev. William L., 1846-1848.
Dennison, B. F., 1884-1902.
Dickerson, Miss Grace, 1913.
Dickerson, J. S., D. D., 1860.
Dickinson, E. W., D. D., 1842-1844, 1846.
Doane, W. H., Mus. Doc., 1901-1915.
Dodge, Rev. Daniel, 1839-1844.
Dorman, William, 1827.
Dowling, J., D. D., 1855.
Drake, H. C., 1913-1915.
Eddy, D. C., D. D., 1863-1864.
Eldridge, James H., 1867-1869.
Ellis, John, 1837.
Estabrook, G. L., 1915-.
Evans, Frederick, D. D., 1890-1892.
Evans, Milton G., D. D., LL. D., 1909-1917.
Everts, Rev. J. B., 1842.
Fendall, Rev. E. D., 1863-1864.
Fener, R., 1838-1840.
Ferris, G. H., D. D., 1907-1911.
Fleischmann, Rev. K. A., 1854.
Fletcher, Rev. Leonard, 1833-1834.
Folwell, Rev. J. N., 1895-1909.
Ford, Isaac, 1844-1851, 1855-1863.
Ford, William, 1841.
Foster, T. S., 1851-1852.
Galusha, Elijah, 1845.
Gamble, John K., 1846-1847.
Gardner, Richard, M. D., 1839-1841.
Garrett, W. E., 1835-1839.
Gaskill, J. H., 1886-1895.
Gendell, J. H., 1888-1911.
George, Charles, 1844-1845.
Gibson, Joseph, 1824-1826.
Gillette, A. D., D. D., 1836-1851.
Gillette, Rev. P. D., 1836.
Goodman, M. Edward, 1880-1900.
Gordon, John, D. D., 1893-1913.
Gray, Rev. Isaac, 1861.
Green, Rev. H. K., 1826.
Griffith, Benjamin, D. D., 1852-1893.
Griffith, J. P. Crozer, M. D., 1912-.
Griffith, Rev. T. S., 1865.
Griswold, Rev. R. W., D. D., 1843-1845.
Grow, Fred A., 1921.
Gubelmann, Rev. J. S., 1870-1884.
Hacker, George, 1827.
Hall, Edwin, 1866-1867.
Hansell, W. F., D. D., 1854, 1855, 1862-1871.
Hansell, W. S., 1827-1834, 1837-1842, 1853, 1856, 1864.
Harrison, John C., D. D., 1845-1848.
Haslam, J. H., D. D., 1904-1913.
Hayhurst, Rev. I. W., 1840-1841.
Henson, P. S., D. D., 1861-1882.
Hewson, John, 1841-1842.
Higgins, Rev. George, 1840-1842, 1845-1848.
Hillegas, J. K., 1830.
Hinman, D. B., 1833-1837, 1854.
Hires, W. D., 1849.
Hiscox, E. T., D. D., 1896-1902.
Hopper, Boardman, 1922-.
Hopper, H. S., 1885-1918.
Hornberger, L. P., D. D., 1871-1884.
Horr, G. C., D. D., 1894-1898.
Hoskinson, J. B., 1873-1895.
Hoskinson, T. J., 1873-1884.
Hoyt, Col. James A., 1890-1893.
Hoyt, Wayland, D. D., 1883-1889, 1896-1911.
Huggens, Rev. Samuel, 1837.
Hughes, D. C., D. D., 1901.
Hutten, Isaac G., 1825-1826.

Ide, G. B., D. D., 1842-1849.
Irving, James, 1879, 1886.
Jacob, Robert U., 1893-1894.
James, Israel E., 1835-1836.
Jarman, Reuben, 1828-1829.
Jayne, David, M. D., 1841-1849.
Jeffrey, R., D. D., 1858-1860, 1862-1865.
Jenkins, Harry L., 1922-.
Jewell, Wilson, M. D., 1830, 1836, 1838-1840.
Johnson, G. G., D. D., 1921-.
Johnson, G. J., D. D., 1878-1885.
Johnson, James, 1824-1826.
Johnson, Reuben, 1824.
Jones, Rev. David, 1827-1833.
Jones, Hon. Horatio Gates, 1860-1892.
Jones, John, 1837-1841.
Keen, C. B., 1878-1886.
Keen, W. W., 1866-1871.
Keen, W. W., M. D., 1872-1883.
Keller, Luther, 1909-1910, 1917-1918.
Kempton, George, D. D., 1845-1852.
Kennard, Jos. H., D. D., 1827-1828, 1832-1836, 1866.
Kennard, Rev. J. S., 1867-1871.
Ketcham, Rev. F. W., 1842, 1848.
Keyes, Rev. C. B., 1838-1840.
Keyser, Charles, D. D., 1870-1872.
Kitts, Rev. Thomas, Jr., 1827-1828, 1830-1832.
Knowles, J. D., D. D., 1824-1825.
Knowles, L., 1838-1842.
Lawson, A. G., D. D., 1893-1895, 1919-.
Leas, D. P., 1887-1913.
Lee, Franklin, 1836, 1843-1844, 1846-1853, 1857-1858.
Lee, George, 1841-1842.
Lee, W. T., 1916.
Levering, Joshua, 1885-1909.
Levy, E. M., D. D., 1850-1858.
Levy, John P., 1859-1867.
Lewis, S. G., 1869.
Lincoln, Heman, D. D., 1850-1852.
Lincoln, H. E., 1862-1863.
Lincoln, T. O., D. D. 1842-1844.
Linnard, James M., 1836, 1839-1843, 1846.
Lisk, Rev. G. James, 1913-1918.
Loud, Philologus, 1829.
Loxley, Rev. B. R., 1839.
Lyle, J. W., D. D., 1906-1922.
Lynd, Samuel W., 1824-1826.
MacArthur, Robert S., D. D., 1883.
MacFarlane, H. K., 1918-.
MacKay, R. M., 1912-1918.
Main, W. H., D. D., 1908-.
Malcom, Howard, D. D., 1827, 1850.
Mann, William, 1864-1866.
Mauck, J. W., LL. D., 1912-1914.
Maylin, Jos., 1827-1833.
McCloud, George, 1850.
McKean, Rev. J. A., 1849-1853, 1856-1859.
McKinney, H. N., 1897-1899.
Meehan, John S., 1825-1826.
Miles, Rev. George I., 1847-1853.
Milford, H. J., 1867-1885.
Miller, E. W., 1857.
Morgan, Ebenezer, 1883-1887.
Morgan, Rev. C. T., 1893-1895.
Moss, Lemuel, D. D., 1873-1874.
Muir, J. J., D. D., 1889, 1913-1918.
Mulford, H. J., 1867-1884.
Mulford, John, 1830-1838.
Mustin, John, 1850.
Myers, Thomas A., 1844.
Norton, C. C., D. D., 1896.
Nugent, George, 1861-1883.
Outlaw, George, 1825.
Palmateer, C. A., 1921.
Parmley, W. H., D. D., 1892-1894.
Patton, W., 1859.
Peacock, J. L., 1915-1918.
Peddie, John, D. D., 1871-1878.
Peltz, G. A., D. D., 1867-1870.
Pendleton, J. M., D. D., 1866-1884.
Perkins, D. W., 1903-1916.



COMPOSING-ROOM

BATTERY OF LINOTYPE MACHINES

THE JUDSON PRESS BUILDING

Perry, Rev. G. B., 1831-1832.
Peters, Rev. L. E., 1857-1859.
Pettit, W. V., 1852-1858.
Philips, J. C., Ph. D., 1919.
Pidge, J. M. B., D. D., 1887-1888.
Pierce, Robert F. Y., D. D., 1912-.
Poteat, E. M., D. D., 1899-1903.
Price, O. J., Ph. D., 1912-1914.
Randolph, Warren, 1859-1862, 1871-1877.
Rannels, Rev. C. H., 1914.
Reed, Enoch S., 1843.
Reed, G. W., 1849.
Reed, Isaac, 1833-1854.
Reed, Jacob, 1835-1840, 1844.
Rees, G. E., D. D., 1884-1909.
Remington, Rev. S., 1852-1853.
Reynolds, Enoch, 1824-1825.
Reynolds, Jos., 1831-1838.
Rhees, Morgan J., D. D., 1831.
Rhoades, J. D., Esq., 1916-.
Rice, Rev. Luther, 1826.
Richards, William H., 1828-1837.
Riley, W. B., D. D., 1915-1918.
Robinson, Rev. W. H., 1884-1887.
Robinson, Frank, 1917-.
Roe, C. M., 1907.
Ross, J. J., D. D., 1922.
Rosselle, W. Q., Ph. D., 1910-.
Rowland, A. J., D. D., LL. D., 1875-1917.
Rue, L. L., 1903-1905, 1915-.
Sage, A. J., D. D., 1869.
Sagebeer, J. E., Ph. D., 1898-.
Sanford, Rev. E. T., 1910-1912.
Schulz, Rev. Henry, 1888-1891.
Search, Henry, D. D., 1889-1898.
Searles, J. W., D. D., 1888-1899.
Sexton, J. W., 1859-1860.
Sexton, Silas W., 1827.
Shadrach, William, D. D., 1838, 1841, 1845-1847.
Sheppard, Joseph, 1837.
Sherborne, F. P., 1835-1838.
Shoemaker, Robert, 1857.
Shoemaker, W. M., 1875-1877.
Simmons, J. B., D. D., 1866.
Smith, John H., 1829.
Smith, Rev. J. Hyatt, 1825, 1860-1866.
Smith, J. Wheaton, D. D., 1854-1881.
Snyder, W. F., 1875-1887.
Staughton, James M., D. D., 1825-1826.
Staughton, William, D. D., 1824-1826.
Steinmetz, Adam, 1856.
Stelle, Rev. D. B., 1913-1920.
Stevens, John S., 1878-1905.
Stewart, David T., 1839.
Stout, J. W., 1870-1877.
Stow, Baron, D. D., 1826.
Strong, Frank, LL. D., 1910-1911.
Swartz, James, 1891-1903.
Swetland, Roger W., LL. D., 1922-.
Swope, George, 1835, 1839, 1840-1843.
Taylor, E. L., 1919-.
Taylor, Joseph, 1836.
Taylor, Rev. R. T., 1850-1853.
Thaw, Joseph, 1824.
Thomas, B. D., D. D., 1873-1891.
Thomas, Erasmus, M. D., 1827-1832.
Thomas, Rev. Jesse B., D. D., 1883-1889.
Tolman, Thomas, 1858-1865.
Trevor, John B., 1834-1838, 1842.
Tucker, Rev. C., 1850.
Tucker, H. H., D. D., LL. D., 1885-1889.
Tucker, Levi, D. D., 1834-1835.
Tupper, Kerr B., D. D., 1896-1905.
Tustin, Hon. E. L., LL. D., 1896-1921.
Ustick, Stephen, 1825-1826.
Wait, Samuel, 1825-1826.
Walker, J. G., D. D. 1885-1887, 1891 - 1914. (Editor "American Baptist Year-Book," 1872-1884, 1897-1915.)

Walton, Charles S., 1900-1915.
Walton, J., 1848.
Warne, J. A., D. D. 1838-1839.
Wattson, T., 1843-1844, 1855-1856, 1866-1871.
Webb, G. S., D. D., 1845-1846.
Webster, P., 1833-1834.
Welch, J. E., D. D., 1847-1848.
Weston, H. G., D. D., LL. D., 1868-1908.
Wheat, Rev. A. C., 1855-1856.
White, Thomas, 1844.
Whitman, B. L., D. D., 1903-1907.
Wilder, Rev. William, 1855-1868.
Williams, Rev. C. C., 1843-1844.
Williamson, W. J., D. D., 1913-1914.
Wilmarth, J. W., D. D., 1890-1903.
Wilson, C. A., 1845.
Winter, Rev. Thomas, D. D., 1850-1851.
Wood, Byron, D. D., 1893-1907.
Woolsey, Rev. J. J., 1836-1837.
Wynn, Isaac C., D. D., 1881-1888.
Young, Smith G., 1914-1924.

BIBLE AND MISSIONARY SECRETARIES

C. C. Bitting, D. D., 1883-1895.
Robert G. Seymour, D. D., 1896-1912.
Guy C. Lamson, D. D., 1913-1915.
Samuel Graham Neil, D. D., 1918-.

DISTRICT SECRETARIES

Rev. Francis Smith, 1864-1865.
Rev. Silas Illsley, 1864-1870.
Rev. Sidney Dyer, Ph. D., 1864-1880.
A. J. Johnson, D. D., 1864-1876.
Rev. J. W. Stone, 1865-1868.
Rev. J. N. Sykes, 1866.
C. R. Blackall, M. D., 1867-1869.
Rev. W. C. Van Meter, 1869.
Rev. H. Daniels, 1869.
Rev. W. C. Child, 1870-1872.
Rev. F. G. Thearle, 1870-1880.
Rufus Babcock, D. D., 1871-1872.
Rev. D. C. Litchfield, 1873-1874.
Andrew Pollard, D. D., 1874-1886.
Rev. S. T. Levermore, 1874.
Rev. James Waters, 1874-1876.
Rev. H. K. Stimson, 1875.
J. S. Backbees, D. D., 1876.
Rev. D. T. Morrill, 1876-1877.
Rev. Frank Remington, 1879-1882.
M. T. Sumner, D. D., 1879-1880.
G. M. Vanderlip, D. D., 1880-1883.
Rev. A. H. Lung, 1882-1885.
James Lisk, D. D., 1883-1884.
Charles H. Spalding, D. D., 1885-1914.
James B. Simmons, D. D., 1886-1904.
S. T. Clanton, D. D., 1891-1896.
E. M. Brawley, D. D., 1892-1896.
J. W. Harris, D. D., 1893-1896.
O. F. Flippo, D. D., 1895-1904.
W. C. Luther, D. D., 1896-1900.
S. N. Vass, D. D., 1896-1918.
Rev. E. S. Stucker, 1897-1900.
Rev. Harvey Hatcher, 1897-1904.
E. M. Stephenson, D. D., 1900-1902.
T. J. Walne, D. D., 1901-1904.
Rev. T. L. Ketman, 1903-1919.
Rev. C. H. Rust, 1906.
S. G. Neil, D. D., 1906-1917.
W. W. Pratt, D. D., 1907-1915.
Rev. J. M. Robertson, 1907-1908.
Rev. J. P. Jacobs, 1907-1915.
Rev. Guy C. Lamson, 1912.
Rev. G. L. White, 1913-1919.
Rev. J. C. Robbins, 1913.
Rev. P. H. J. Lerrigo, 1914-1916.

ELECTROTYPE FOUNDRY

THE JUDSON PRESS BUILDING

MANAGERS

H. V. Meyer, 1917-1920.
H. E. Cressman, 1921-.

BOOK EDITORS

J. N. Brown, D. D., 1850-1859.
G. W. Anderson, D. D., 1864-1892.
P. L. Jones, D. D., 1894-1913.
Daniel G. Stevens, Ph. D., 1913-.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF SUNDAY SCHOOL PUBLICATIONS

C. R. Blackall, D. D., 1883-1916.
W. E. Raffety, Ph. D., 1916-1924.
O. C. Brown, D. D., 1924-.

SECRETARY OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

YOUNG PEOPLE AND TEACHER-TRAINING

W. E. Chalmers, D. D., 1912-.

SECRETARY OF SOCIAL EDUCATION

Samuel Zane Batten, D. D., 1912-.

DIRECTOR OF VACATION AND WEEK-DAY SCHOOLS

Thomas S. Young, D. D., 1921-.

DIRECTOR OF ELEMENTARY WORK

Meme Brockway, 1916-.

VI

THE ANNALS OF THE CENTURY

Prepared by E. M. STEPHENSON

When there crept into the charter of this Society those famous words, "The object of this Corporation shall be to promote evangelical religion by means of the Bible, the Printing Press, Colportage, Sunday-schools and other appropriate ways," there was given to it a sort of undying prophecy of the great work it was destined to do and the large place it was destined to fill. . . But the formal engrafting of these words upon the charter was no new inoculation. It was simply the coming to the surface of a life which had been flowing through the veins of the Society during all its history.—*Address of C. H. Spalding, D. D, at Detroit, Michigan, in 1900.*

NORTHEAST SECTION OF PRESS-ROOM

THE JUDSON PRESS BUILDING

VI

1824-1834

1824.—"The Columbian Star" of February 21, 1824, contained a call for a meeting in the home of George Wood, to consider the formation of a Baptist Tract Society, Wednesday evening, February 25. Pursuant to the call twenty-five persons, eighteen men and seven women, met, and selected as chairman Dr. Wm. Staughton, the president of Columbian College.

By unanimous action the Baptist General Tract Society was organized, a constitution adopted with a full list of officers.

1824-1825.—Mr. J. D. Knowles reported the publication of 85,500 pages of nineteen tracts.

1825-1826.—Mr. George Wood and Mr. Noah Davis made a special appeal for the removal of the Headquarters of the Society to Philadelphia so as to facilitate transportation and save expense.

1826-1827.—Noah Davis being persuaded to accept the agency of the Society at a special meeting of the Managers, the transfer to Philadelphia was ordered, November 26, 1827.

Mr. Simmes, an apothecary on Chestnut Street, received boxes, packages, and letters at Philadelphia dock, reshipping to their destinations for two years without compensation.

1827-1828.—The first periodical issued was "The Baptist Tract Magazine," July, 1827. Receipts for the year, $3,158.04. Tracts issued, 1,346,024 royal octavo pages. Mr. N. R. Cobb, of Boston, proposed to give $500 on condition that the Philadelphia brethren give a like sum. This was done, and $1,000 added.

1828-1829.—Population of the U. S. 11,000,000 souls. One in 46 a Baptist. Inquiries come in for "Sunday-school statistics" occasioned by quite a number of adventurous churches having sent in full accounts of their schools and teaching activities to their Associations in the church letters.

1829-1830.—"Youth's Magazine," a section of "Tract Magazine," issued separately for 25 cents a year. The Society's first legacy $20 from a "Sister in the Lord" in Connecticut. "The time may come when the number of schools in our denomination will be so great as to require the Society to publish a series of Sabbath-school books suited to their needs." From last report of Noah Davis.

1830-1831.—The President of the Board, Dr. W. T. Brantly, served as Agent the first half of the year until the arrival of a successor to Noah Davis, Rev. Ira M. Allen.

1831-1832.—Doctor Judson, of Burma, made a strong plea for tracts as the new press of Doctor Bennett, of Rangoon, could not supply the demand. It was proposed that the Society raise "$10,000 for tracts *here* and $10,000 for *there.*"

1832-1833.—Captain Tubbs of Philadelphia placed some of our tracts in the hands of Mr. J. G. Oncken, Hamburg, Germany, which led to Baptist work in five European countries. J. M. Peck called for tracts for his large field in the West. A missionary in Sault Ste. Marie, Canada, Rev. E. Cameron, read one of our tracts and became convinced, and was baptized according to the New Testament with three of his Indians.

1833-1834.—The Rev. Levi Tucker and Mr. John B. Trevor were added to the Board. Dr. Nathaniel Colver and R. W. Cushman from New York spoke to the report of the Board.

1834-1844

1834-1835.—The Board received a strong appeal for a library for Sunday schools and for a Sunday School Union to issue literature suitable to our convictions. A bound volume of our own tracts under the title of "Baptist Manual" proved a great power in explaining our position. A fund was opened to give the Baptist Manual to every family in the Mississippi Valley.

1835-1836.—"The Tract Magazine" was superseded by the "Monthly Folio." Reports speak of great interest in Germany. Doctor Judson wrote of the popularity of American Baptist tracts in Burma and made a plea for another grant. Triennial Convention urged the Society to enlarge its work and issue bound volumes.

1836-1837.—Joseph Kennard, Jacob Reed, and W. W. Keen were added to the Board.

1837-1838.—Dr. Barnas Sears urged advanced work among Germans in America. A letter from Germany records an interview which the King of Prussia sought with our brethren Oncken, Lehman, and Schauffer to learn the meaning of the Baptist principle. The date of holding annual meeting changed to spring. One thousand five hundred copies of Baptist Manual sold.

1838-1839.—The Board in its report urged the request of the Triennial Convention that the Society issue bound books which would set forth our peculiar doctrines, and to publish Sunday-school books, biographical, historical, and doctrinal, suited to the understanding of the scholars. The names of G. B. Ide and B. R. Loxley added to the list of managers. Baron Stow moved that the report of the Board proposing enlarged work of the Society be carried out. Motion carried.

SOUTHWEST SECTION OF PRESS-ROOM

THE JUDSON PRESS BUILDING

1839-1840.—The name of the Society changed to The American Baptist Publication and Sunday School Society. It became the first Colportage Society in the world. B. R. Loxley became General Agent. Bound volumes begin to come from our press. G. B. Ide, President; W. Williams Keen, Treasurer.

1840-1841.—Annual report read by Morgan J. Rhees, Corresponding Secretary. The "Baptist Record," which had superseded the "Monthly Folio," becomes a weekly. The Society asked by the Triennial Convention to publish a denominational hymn-book.

1841-1842.—The Board planned a "Family Library" and a "Sunday School Library." Ten thousand copies of Baptist Almanac sold. Record 3,300 weekly.

1842-1843.—J. M. Peck elected Corresponding Secretary, succeeding Doctor Rhees. The Board called for two copies of minutes of all associations.

1843-1844.—The Society issued the new hymn-book, the Psalmist, and sold more than 30,000 copies. Twelve thousand copies of the Baptist Almanac sold. The words "Sunday School" were dropped from the name but not from the work of the Society. The Society called for a capital fund of $50,000.

1844-1854

1844-1845.—The population in the West doubling every ten years. Our colporters bestow special attention on Sunday schools, temperance, and missions. Complete works of Andrew Fuller to be published.

1845-1846.—Stereotyped edition of Howell's "Scriptural Communion" and "Deaconship." The Society offers to place a colporter in a destitute region for $100 a year. Thomas S. Malcom succeeds J. M. Peck as Corresponding Secretary.

1846-1847.—A bound volume of our tracts entitled "Reign of Grace" from the initial tract. One hundred dollars sent to Holland through Doctor Oncken in response to a call for aid of a convert to our faith, Rev. Mr. Feisser. Twenty missionary-colporters at work in eleven States.

1847-1848.—New editions of Carson's works, Howell on "The Deaconship," Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress," Baptist Manual, Pengilly in French. Eighteen colporters at work in ten States, three Germans, one of them a converted Romanist.

1848-1849.—The new publications numbered fifteen. The $10,000 fund completed. The building fund is now $1,659.07.

1849-1850.—J. Newton Brown began work as Book Editor. The Society entered its new building at 530 Arch Street, and Doctor Brown read his paper on the history of the Society. Twenty-one colporters in eleven States. The second Sunday in June set apart as a day of prayer for the Society.

1850-1851.—The Charter of the Society made perpetual by the Legislature of Pennsylvania in virtue of the act of April 14, 1841.

1851-1852.—The number of missionary-colporters has reached 34. Two brethren set apart $2,500 each as a permanent fund for this work. The Society asked that the second Sunday in June be set apart permanently as a day of prayer and offerings for the work of the Society. Oncken having translated Pengilly on Baptism into German, asked for $1,000 to publish it. The money was gathered and sent.

1852-1853.—The first number of the "American Baptist Register" gives the number of churches of our faith in the U. S. as 10,000, and gives the names of pastors and their addresses. The Historical Society was formed as a Department of The American Baptist Publication Society with Dr. Wm. R. Williams, of New York, President.

1853-1854.—A depository opened in Chicago with Leroy Church in charge. Rev. Wm. Shadrach chosen as Corresponding Secretary succeeding T. S. Malcom. The first annual report of the Historical Department was read and printed. A group of women set about to raise a fund for a new home for the Society. Before the Arch Street property was bought and paid for 1,000 women had given $10 each.

1854-1864

1854-1855.—First meeting of the Society to be held in Chicago, J. P. Crozer presided. Justin T. Smith made district agent for Chicago. Rev. C. F. Hejdenberg, a Swedish pastor, became converted to our views and went to Hamburg to be baptized, and on his return baptized many converts and organized four churches.

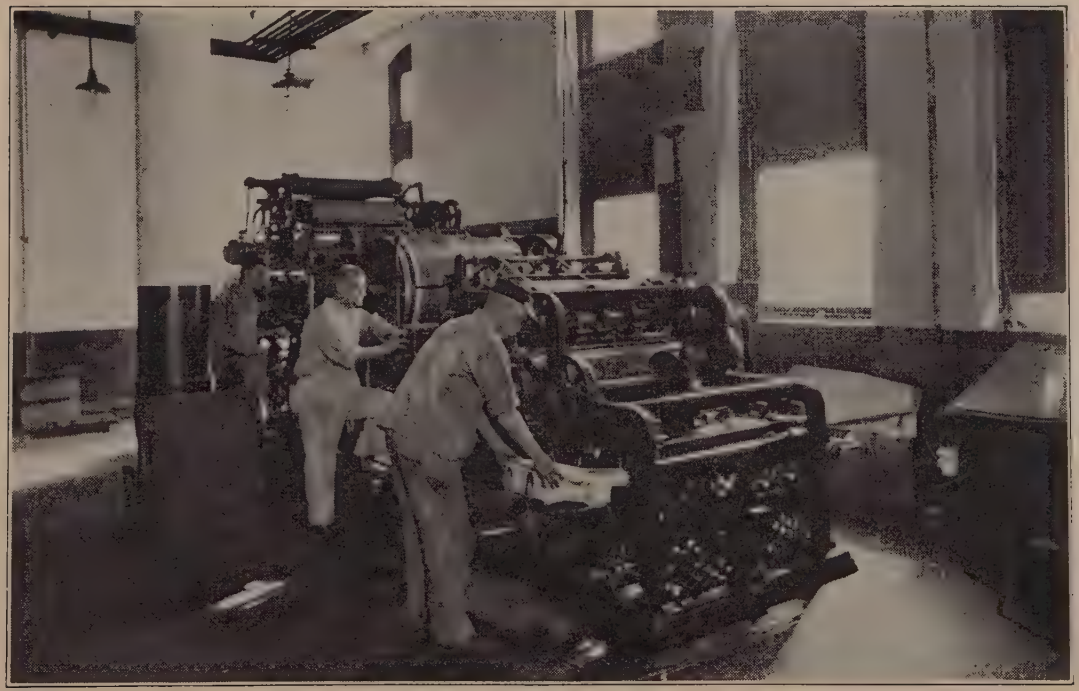
1855-1856.—The Society bought out the New England Sunday School Union for $6,715. "The Young Reaper" which had been published by the Union was issued in improved form with an edition of 30,000. The first Sunday-school question-book for Baptists issued this year.

1856-1857.—Dr. Benjamin Griffith was elected General Secretary to succeed Doctor Shadrach. Depository enlarged. Sixty-eight colporters laboring in 17 States.

1857-1858.—All operations and industries feel the clogging of financial depression all over the land. "The $50,000 capital fund should be made $100,000, for the needs of the Baptists are strongly felt."

1858-1859.—Missionary-colporters instructed to constitute Baptist Sunday schools as well as union schools. The Board by unanimous resolution voted to ask the denomination for an enlargement fund of $100,000.

1859-1860.—The Society began a series of Sunday-school question-books suitable for Baptist schools. During the year the colporters of the Society organized 34 churches, baptized 722 converts.



ROTARY PRESS FOR PRINTING "YOUNG PEOPLE"

THE JUDSON PRESS BUILDING

1860-1861.—"The Children's Choir," a new Sunday-school song-book, is issued and is meeting a large sale. Wm. Phelps elected President of the Society.

1861-1862.—Brethren Crozer and Bucknell agreed to enlarge the building to relieve the crowded condition if the friends would add an equal sum to the working capital. Conditions met and the addition made, with no debt save one of gratitude.

1862-1863.—Jonathan Davis gave his $2,500 fund for colportage work, and John P. Crozer his library fund of $10,000.

1863-1864.—Dr. George W. Anderson appointed Book Editor. Fifty colporters at work, and fifty more needed at once in the growing West and among the freedmen in the South.

1864-1874

1864-1865.—"National Baptist" founded; 50 men contributing the necessary fund. "First Reader for Freedmen" and "The Freedman's Book of Christian Doctrine" issued.

1865-1866.—A missionary Memorial Fund in honor of John P. Crozer, $50,000. Samuel Patten left a colporter fund of $2,000. By mutual agreement the Swedish work was committed to the Missionary Union.

1866-1867.—The Society was requested to issue a "Year-Book" and a new Baptist Hymnal. The field men requested to constitute new schools and improve old ones.

1867-1868.—The Society more and more generally acknowledged as the Sunday-school Society of the denomination. The first Year-Book issued with the purpose to make it an annual publication.

1868-1869.—The Board asked the Society to consider the appointment of a Sunday-school superintendent for the whole country. The Society began issuing Lesson Helps in advance of the International System, and gained a subscription of 10,000. The first Baptist National Sunday School Convention was held in St. Louis in November through the efforts of Dr. C. R. Blackall of the Chicago House, and largely directed by Mr. E. D. Jones of St. Louis.

1869-1870.—The St. Louis Convention led to the publication of the "Baptist Teacher" and the appointment of Dr. Warren Randolph as Sunday School Secretary.

1870-1871.—The Society brought out a new hymn-book. "Young People" has reached a sale of 2,294,288 copies; "Baptist Teacher," 300,000 copies; "Macedonian and Record," 125,000 copies; "Bible Lessons," 1,000 copies.

10,720

1871-1872.—The Second Baptist National Sunday School Convention held in Cincinnati, under the direction of Doctor Randolph. Doctor Blackall read a paper advocating the suggestion of B. F. Jacobs favoring Uniform Lessons.

1872-1873.—"Our Little Ones" entered on its career, a worthy competitor for public favor. Doctor Blackall, at the suggestion of Mr. Jacobs and Edward Eggleston, prepared a prospectus covering a whole year and took it in person to show Doctor Griffith who accepted the suggestion in full.

1873-1874.—Bible Lessons and Primary Lessons issued. Hovey-Gregory "Normal Class Manual" published, which antedated by two years Doctor Vincent's "Normal Class," a high-grade publication.

1874-1884

1874-1875.—Baptist question-book on the International Lessons. One hundred new Sunday schools organized. Thirty thousand Bibles sold by colporters. Dr. J. Hatcher Smith laid the corner-stone for a new building, 1420 Chestnut Street.

1875-1876.—The Society moved into its new building on Chestnut Street. A complete commentary on the New Testament with Doctor Hovey as Editor-in-Chief is a project of the Society.

1876-1877.—The Third National Baptist Sunday School Institute held in Boston. Dr. Warren Randolph closed his secretarial work to reenter the pastorate.

1877-1878.—Dr. G. J. Johnson appointed Missionary-Secretary. Dr. P. W. Bickel selected by the Society to establish a Publication House in Germany, accepted the work, and left Cleveland for that post. Question-books superseded by graded quarterlies.

1878-1879.—An encouraging word comes from the work of Doctor Bickel in Germany. Five new missionaries employed.

1879-1880.—The Board projected, and the Society executed a centenary celebration of Robert Raikes founding a Sunday school in Gloucester, England, which netted the Society for Sunday-school extension the sum of $10,000.

1880-1881.—"Advanced Quarterly," the "Intermediate Quarterly," and Picture Lesson Cards now reenforce the list of lesson helps, and the "Sunlight" has been put into the field to reenforce "Young Reaper."

1881-1882.—Rev. Benjamin Griffith, D. D., this year rounds out twenty-five years of service as General Secretary of the Society.

1882-1883.—In this year was the memorable Bible Convention at Saratoga when the Bible work of the denomination was committed to the Society. The Baptist Hymnal appeared and met with an enormous initial sale.

FOLDING MACHINES IN BINDERY

THE JUDSON PRESS BUILDING

1883-1884.—Interesting instances of cooperation of Southern brethren in the Society's work for Negroes in the South. Dr. C. C. Bitting appointed Bible Secretary.

1884-1894

1884-1885.—Doctor Bickel reported his work completed, and the German Publication Society established and self-supporting. Dr. G. J. Johnson retired as Missionary Secretary, and his work was united with Bible work under Doctor Bitting. "Senior Quarterly" and "Baptist Superintendent" added to the list.

1885-1886.—By agreement of the Societies all Bible money to be gathered by The American Baptist Publication Society.

1886-1887.—The total issuance of the Society from the beginning to the present 330,087,724 copies of tracts, books, and periodicals, an average daily output of 1,483,000 pages for the entire period.

1887-1888.—The Society established a Depository in Atlanta, not for financial reasons, but as a necessary method of business for a denominational Society.

1888-1889.—A resolution favoring advanced work in Bible translation and urging the Society to undertake it. Great need of the distribution of the Scriptures mentioned in the reports from the field.

1889-1890.—The Society is employing 132 workers in 37 States. The yearly increase for the last 40 years has been 410 ordained ministers, 645 churches, 61,108 members.

1890-1891.—The first chapel car was dedicated at Cincinnati, May 23, 1891.

1891-1892.—The completed revision of the Bible Union Version of the New Testament was announced, and the books on sale. Dr. C. C. Bitting made a plea for chapel car No. 2 and received $3,071.

1892-1893.—Chapel car Evangel in its first year visited 88 places, held 424 sessions, 474 sermons, 400 conversions, 4 Sunday schools organized, and 8 churches. The Young People's Union sold to the organization in Chicago. Chapel car No. 2 completed, and a friend in New York agrees to build No. 3 if another will build No. 4.

1893-1894.—Doctor Griffith's departure, October 24, 1894. The Board chose Col. C. H. Banes to the office of Secretary. Chapel car No. 3 dedicated and car No. 4 nearing completion.

1894-1904

1894-1895.—Dr. A. J. Rowland of Baltimore, Recording Secretary of the Society, becomes General Secretary, February 24, 1895. Eighty-five missionary-colporters besides Sunday-school missionaries at work in the States.

1895-1896.—February 2, 1896, the fine building on Chestnut Street destroyed by fire. October 12 marked the completion and the dedication of the new Printing-house on Juniper and Lombard Streets.

A satisfactory trial with a hired wagon in the woods of Michigan by the Sunday-school missionary, assisted by Robert Bailey, pastor at Pentwater.

1896-1897.—The Board decided to rebuild on the Chestnut Street site, and reported the building well under way. "Sunlight" gives way to "Boys and Girls," May 27, 1897. First wagon dedicated at Plainwell, Michigan. The wagon given by Dr. J. Fletcher, and equipment and team by other friends and Sunday schools.

1897-1898.—The completion and formal opening of the new Headquarters in place of the one destroyed, November 17, 1897. "Sursum Corda," a book of praise for the congregation, issued from the society's press. A new covered wagon fitted for living replaced the missionary wagon and was dedicated in Jackson, Michigan, in April, 1898, as *Colportage Wagon No. 1,* in charge of E. M. Stephenson. Wagon No. 2 sent to Utah, gift of Mr. Crozer, Jay Pruden in charge. Wagon No. 3, gift of friends in Michigan, dedicated in Grand Rapids for work among the Danes; J. Larsen in charge.

1898-1899.—For the first time the Society has employed women in cooperation with churches in Spokane, Wilmington, Philadelphia. The experiment is a success.

1899-1900.—The Society has now 11 wagons and 5 chapel cars. The Business Department from 1824 to 1874 gave the Missionary Department $250,000. The Norwalk Baptist Church of Ohio, Rev. Herbert Agate, pastor, made a gift of wagon No. 13 for Nebraska.

1900-1901.—Modahl Memorial Wagon dedicated to go among the Swedes in Minnesota. Miss Augusta Soderburg appointed a missionary among the Finns in Finland. The Society has sold more books from our own presses than in any former year.

1901-1902.—The Martin J. Lewis Memorial Wagon dedicated by South Dakota Convention for work in the Dakotas. A new wagon has been sent to Arizona, and one to East Washington, gift of friends of the McMichaels who retire from a long service.

1902-1903.—Dr. A. J. Rowland at the Convention in Buffalo offered the following resolution: "We request the committee of reference on appointment to take into consideration the possibility of such affiliations of the several societies as will secure their annual assembling not simply as separate organizations, but as one council or body."

1903-1904.—On the Committee of Reference, Dr. H. G. Weston and Dr. Emory W. Hunt will act for the Society. The new "Story Quarterly" launched.

PAMPHLET BINDERY

THE JUDSON PRESS BUILDING

1904-1914

1904-1905.—A new emphasis being laid on teacher-training. A few States are beginning to feel a larger responsibility for more effective work in Sunday schools.

1905-1906.—The sale of the Crozer Building one of the events of the year. Rev. S. G. Neil becomes District Superintendent succeeding Doctor Flippo. The First Colportage Cruiser, The Mamie Beal, Captain D. W. Townsend in charge, is operating on the Columbia River.

1906-1907.—Rev. C. H. Rust after many years of service with the Society, reenters the pastorate. The O. F. Flippo Memorial Wagon dedicated for work in Delaware placed in charge of Mr. Stewart.

1907-1908.—Announcement was made of a new site for the Headquarters of the Society, 1701-1703 Chestnut Street, and a seven-story building well on the way to completion. A new missionary periodical, "World-Wide," has been added to our list, and "Our Boys and Girls" has been superseded by "Girl's World" and "Youth's World."

1908-1909.—At an expense of $20,000 the Society took over the burdens and risks of the B. Y. P. U. of A., January, 1909. C. M. Roe, long connected with the Society, resigned as Business Manager. Harry V. Meyer from the Philadelphia House became Manager in Boston.

1909-1910.—A good beginning has been made in "Keystone Graded Lessons," the new International Lesson Courses. C. M. Phillips was called from Indiana to reenforce the editorial staff.

1910-1911.—One of our colportage wagons and its missionary accompanied by Doctor Seymour and Rev. Joe Jacobs, entered the famous Jackson's Hole in Wyoming. George L. White appointed District superintendent for the Pacific Coast. Twenty-five denominations united in forming the Sunday School Council of Evangelical Denominations.

1911-1912.—The United Society of Free Baptist Young People, through Harry S. Meyers, consummated the Union with the Young People's Department of The American Baptist Publication Society. The combination of the young people's work and the teacher-training work into the Educational Department, with Rev. W. E. Chalmers as Secretary, marked an advance.

1912-1913.—Rev. Daniel G. Stevens, Ph. D., becomes Book Editor succeeding Dr. P. L. Jones. In Doctor Chalmers' Department the old title, "Sunday School Missionary," gives way to that of "Director of Religious Education."

1913-1914.—A second cruiser for the Netherlands of California dedicated at Suisun Bay, while a third is being constructed as a memorial to Dr. Robert G. Seymour and named for him.

1914-1924

1914-1915.—The last report of Dr. Adoniram Judson Rowland consisted of a resumé of "Two Decades" and the "Pupil's Work Exhibit." The award went to the First Church of Denver. Great stress was laid on the work of religious education in the report.

1915-1916.—Harry V. Meyer brought from Boston to be Business Manager at Headquarters. All evangelical denominations approve the New Standard Teacher-training Course of 120 lessons. In twenty States Miss Meme Brockway, Director of Children's Work, reports directors of children's work free of salary.

1916-1917.—Dr. Christopher R. Blackall, after fifty years of responsibility as Editor-in-Chief of Sunday School Publications, laid down the task, and W. Edward Raffety, Ph. D., was called to that important work.

1917-1918.—The year marked by great advance in the Department of Religious Education and that of Sunday-school courses and periodicals. The Society more and more a cooperating force in assemblies, Conventions, and city institutes, through its departments of Religious Education and of Social Education.

1918-1919.—Early in the Convention year Mr. Frank H. Robinson was chosen Acting General Secretary. The Bible and Field Department reorganized with Dr. S. G. Neil as Superintendent. In December, 1918, Gilbert N. Brink, D. D., was elected General Secretary of the Society. Doctor Chalmers instituted an annual Directors' Conference at Strontia Springs, Denver.

1919-1920.—A new set of By-laws approved and adopted by the Society. Rev. Seldon Roberts called to the Division of Teacher-training. Mr. George L. Estabrook was elected Treasurer of the Society, and H. E. Cressman Assistant Treasurer. Mr. Albert Hughes becomes Manager of the St. Louis House.

1920-1921.—The publication of a series to be known as Judson Training Manuals was authorized. The Keystone Series of lesson courses completed. A Joint Bureau of Architecture formed, with Mr. Merrill for the Home Mission Society, and H. E. Tralle for the Publication Society, is announced. Dr. Samuel Zane Batten has reorganized his Division with the title of Department of Social Education.

1921-1922.—Branch house established at Los Angeles. Harry Windisch of Periodical Department has rounded out 40 years of service. Mr. H. E. Cressman became Business Manager. Joseph E. Sagebeer, Ph. D., became legal adviser of the Society. Rev. W. H. Main, D. D., becomes Associate General Secretary of the Board.

PERIODICAL SHIPPING DEPARTMENT

THE JUDSON PRESS BUILDING

1922-1923.—Dr. Samuel Graham Neil reports automobile chapel car named "Crawford Memorial" to work at present in Southern California and Mexico. He also announced a new Russian Bible from our press, of one volume of 1,527 pages, the first edition costing $36,000. Summer Assemblies reported in all States in the Northern Baptist Convention except two. Doctor Raffety delivers the Yale Sunday School lectures through the year. Dr. Daniel G. Stevens, Ph. D., the Book Editor, represents the Society in the Baptist World Alliance.

1923-1924.—The Centennial Celebration of the Society was held February 24-27, 1924, a pageant being given in the First Church, Philadelphia, on Monday, February 25, and addresses being made at the Philadelphia Baptist Ministers Conference on the morning of that day and at the Memorial Baptist Church and the First Baptist Church on February 26. The "Ernest Leigh Tustin Memorial Auto Chapel Car" was dedicated and sent out into service in the Southwest. From several cities the story of the Publication Society was broadcast by the radio. O. C. Brown, D. D., succeeded W. E. Raffety, Ph. D., as Editor-in-chief of Sunday School Publications. C. R. Blackall, D. D., Editor Emeritus of Sunday School Publications, died at the ripe age of ninety-four years. The mortgage on the printing-house was paid off, and provision was made to pay the mortgage on the headquarters building when due. Great progress was reported in vacation Bible schools and also in week-day schools of religion.

MERCHANDISE SHIPPING DEPARTMENT

THE JUDSON PRESS BUILDING

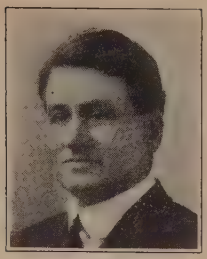
Thomas J. Stratton, Superintendent (at second window from right)
Richard McKnight, Assistant Superintendent (at extreme right)

VII

OFFICIAL NAMES, HOMES, AND DOCUMENTS

Some do not seem to know that all the property of this Society, of every sort—its buildings, machinery, material, branch houses, capital, cars, and possessions of every kind whatsoever—belongs solely and only to the Baptist denomination in America, and is held by the corporate Society entirely and exclusively for the service of Baptists in the work of publication, colportage, Sunday-school missions, and tract and Bible distribution, and held only in trust for these purposes, but never for the profit of any body of men or individuals. No one has ever received a dividend, or in any way shared in the profits. There are not now, nor have there ever been, any stockholders.—*The Society's Report of 1893.*

MARK W. ADAIR
Manager
Boston Branch



D. E. HATT
Manager
Toronto Branch

MRS. A. H. HOWELL
Asst. Manager
Seattle Store

CHARLES MAJOR
Manager
Chicago Store

PARKER C. PALMER
Acting Manager
Los Angeles Branch

WILEY J. SMITH
Manager
Kansas City Branch

GEORGE L. WHITE, D.D.
Manager
Seattle Branch

BRANCH MANAGERS

VII

THE CORPORATE TITLES
OF THE
SOCIETY FOR ONE HUNDRED YEARS

1824-1840. THE BAPTIST GENERAL TRACT SOCIETY.

1840-1844. THE AMERICAN BAPTIST PUBLICATION AND SUNDAY SCHOOL SOCIETY.

1844-1870. THE AMERICAN BAPTIST PUBLICATION SOCIETY.

1870-1873. THE BIBLE AND PUBLICATION SOCIETY.

1873-1924. THE AMERICAN BAPTIST PUBLICATION SOCIETY.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE SOCIETY IN THE ONE HUNDRED YEARS

WASHINGTON, D. C.

1. 1824-1826. Office of "The Columbian Star," 925 E St., N. W.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

2. 1826. Front St., west side, few doors below Market, second floor. (Rent $100 per year.) January to September 20, 1827.
3. 1827-1829. 118 North Fourth St. (A few shelves with David Clark.) September 20, 1827 to June 26, 1829.
4. 1829-1833. Northwest corner Fifth and North Sts. (Rent $200 per year.) June 26, 1829 to February 8, 1833.
5. 1833-1844. 21 South Fourth St. February 8, 1833 to April 1, 1844.
6. 1844-1850. 31 North Sixth St. (Rent $550 per annum.) April 1, 1844 to April, 1850.
7. 1850-1876. 530 Arch St. (Earlier number, 118 Arch St.) April 1, 1850 to 1876.
8. 1876-1896. 1420 Chestnut St.[1] 1876-1896.
9. 1896-1898. 1632-4 Chestnut St. (Temporary 1896 to 1898.)
10. 1898-1906. 1420 Chestnut St.[1] 1898 to 1906.
11. 1906-1908. 1630 Chesnut St. (Temporary 1906 to 1908.)
12. 1908. 1701-1703 Chestnut St., "The Roger Williams Building." 1908-.

1896. 1329 Lombard Street, the PRINTING-HOUSE, "The Judson Press Building," dedicated October 12.

[1] 8 and 10 have the same site.

CONSTITUTION
OF
THE BAPTIST GENERAL TRACT SOCIETY

February 20, 1824

ART. I. The name of this Society shall be "The Baptist General Tract Society." Its sole object shall be to disseminate evangelical truth, and to inculcate sound morals, by the distribution of tracts.

ART. II. Any person may become a member of this Society, by paying the sum of one dollar annually. The payment of ten dollars at one time, shall constitute a person a member for life.

ART. III. There shall be an annual meeting of the Society on the last Wednesday in February, when the following officers shall be chosen by ballot, viz.: A President, Vice-president, Agent, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and a Board of Directors, consisting of the President, Vice-president, Agent, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall be Directors in consequence of their office; and seven members of the Society. Five Directors shall constitute a quorum for business. The Board shall have power to supply any vacancy that may occur in its own body.

ART. IV. The Directors shall superintend the publication and distribution of such tracts as they shall approve; the appointment of subordinate agents; the establishment of depositories; the formation of auxiliary societies, etc. They shall hold frequent meetings, under such regulations as they may adopt, in conformity with the general provisions of the Constitution. They shall appoint the place and the hour for the annual meeting of the Society; and may, if they think proper, make arrangements for an annual sermon, or public addresses, and a collection for the benefit of the Society. The Directors and the Treasurer shall make an annual report of their proceedings.

ART. V. The Agent shall conduct the correspondence of the Society, and shall carry into effect the measures adopted by the Board of Directors.

ART. VI. The Recording Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the Board of Directors, and of the Society. He shall receive all moneys, keep a record of them, and pay them over to the Treasurer.

ART. VII. Every member shall be entitled to receive three-fourths of the amount of his subscription in tracts, at cost. Auxiliary societies shall be entitled to the same privilege.

ART. VIII. Any person, by paying twenty-five dollars at one time, shall be a director for life. The Presidents of auxiliary societies shall be ex-officio members of the Board of Directors.

ART. IX. The President shall call a meeting of the Society, at the request of a majority of the Board of Directors.

ART. X. Any alterations of this Constitution may be made at an annual meeting by the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

CHARTER

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE

THE AMERICAN BAPTIST PUBLICATION SOCIETY

AND SUPPLEMENTS THERETO

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the persons belonging to or composing the Society now called "The American Baptist Publication and Sunday School Society" be, and they are hereby created a body politic and corporate in law, by the name, style, and title of "The American Baptist Publication Society," and by that name shall have perpetual succession, have a common seal, make contracts, may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, in any Court of record, or in any other place whatever; and may also hold any real or personal estate conveyed to them by gift, grant, bargain and sale, devise, bequest, or other alienation whatsoever, and sell and convey the same: *Provided,* That the clear yearly value of the lands, tenements, or other real estate of said Corporation shall not exceed the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars. (By an act approved July, 1874, this sum was increased to twenty thousand dollars. See Supplement No. 3.)

SEC. 2. The object of this Corporation shall be to publish such works of a religious character as shall be approved of for that purpose by the Board of Managers. (By an act approved in 1871 this clause was amended to read as follows: The object of this Corporation shall be to promote evangelical religion by means of the Bible, the Printing-press, Colportage, Sunday schools, and other appropriate ways. See Supplement No. 2.)

SEC. 3. Its Officers shall be a President, two or more Vice-presidents, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, and twenty-one other members who, together, shall constitute a Board of Managers, and any five of them shall form a quorum. They shall be elected by ballot at the yearly meeting hereinafter provided for; and until the first election shall be held in pursuance hereof, the officers of the present Society shall be officers of this Corporation; and no failure to hold an election for, or to elect any of said officers, shall be deemed a forfeiture of any of the corporate privileges hereby conferred, but the same shall continue unimpaired thereby, and on such failure, or failures, the officers of the preceding year shall continue in office until their successors shall be duly elected.

SEC. 4. A meeting of this Corporation shall be held each year, and at such time and place as the Board of Managers may appoint, for the election of officers, and for such other business as it may be necessary for the Society to transact.

SEC. 5. Other Associations for a similar object may be made auxiliary to this Corporation by such means, and in such manner, as may be directed by the Board of Managers, and have the privilege of representation in its annual meetings.

SEC. 6. The Board of Managers shall have power to appoint such other officers not hereinbefore provided for, as may be necessary to provide for, and to regulate the admission of persons, being citizens of the United States, as Corporators; and to make all other laws and regulations necessary for the good government of the Corporation, and not repugnant to the Constitution and Laws of the United States or of this Commonwealth; and the said Corporation shall continue ten years and no longer. (By an act approved April 14, 1851, the charter is made perpetual. See Supplement No. 1.)

The original charter was approved March 20, 1845, published in Pamphlet Laws of 1845, p. 194.

SUPPLEMENT No. 1

TO AN ACT ENTITLED "AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE AMERICAN BAPTIST PUBLICATION SOCIETY," APPROVED MARCH TWENTIETH, ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FORTY-FIVE.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the limitation contained in the following words "and the said Corporation shall continue ten years and no longer," as found in the Sixth Section of an Act entitled "An Act to Incorporate The American Baptist Publication Society," approved the twentieth day of March, Anno Domini, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty-five, to which this is a Supplement, be, and the same is hereby repealed, and the Charter of the said Society made perpetual.

Approved the fourteenth day of April, A. D., One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-one.

Published in Pamphlet Laws of 1851, p. 585.

SUPPLEMENT No. 2

TO AN ACT ENTITLED "AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE AMERICAN BAPTIST PUBLICATION SOCIETY," APPROVED MARCH TWENTIETH, ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FORTY-FIVE.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that the name, style, and title of The American Baptist Publication Society shall be, and the same is hereby changed and altered to "The Bible and Publication Society."

SEC. 2. The object of this Corporation shall be to promote evangelical religion by means of the Bible, the Printing-press, Colportage, Sunday schools, and other appropriate ways.

SEC. 3. That all the privileges, franchises, rights, estates, and powers granted by the said Act to which this is a Supplement shall issue to and be enjoyed by the said Corporation under its name "The Bible and Publication Society."

SEC. 4. That all legacies or devises heretofore made, or that may hereafter be made to The American Baptist Publication Society, shall issue to and be enjoyed by the said "The Bible and Publication Society," their successors or assigns.

Published in Pamphlet Laws of 1871, p. 649.

SUPPLEMENT No. 3

Early in May, 1874, application was made to the Court of Common Pleas, asking that the Society's charter might be amended as follows:

1. That the name, style, and title of "The Bible and Publication Society" be changed to "The American Baptist Publication Society."

2. That the said Corporation may hold real estate to an amount the clear yearly value or income whereof shall not exceed "Twenty Thousand Dollars."

In the month of July, 1874, the Court granted the above petition in both particulars.

For the details of this application and order of Court, see Records of the proceedings recorded in the office of the Recorder of Deeds of Philadelphia, in Charter Book No. 1, p. 338.

BY-LAWS

OF

THE AMERICAN BAPTIST PUBLICATION SOCIETY

Adopted at Chicago, May 11, 1910

With Amendments Adopted in 1914 and 1919

Article I. Membership

Section 1. The membership of the Society shall be composed as follows:

(1) Of all persons who are now life-members or honorary life-members;

(2) Of annual members appointed by Baptist churches. Any church may appoint one delegate, and one additional delegate for every hundred members, but no church shall be entitled to appoint more than ten delegates;

(3) Of all missionaries of the Society during their terms of service;

(4) Of all accredited delegates to each annual meeting of the Northern Baptist Convention.

Sec. 2. No member shall be entitled to more than one vote.

Article II. Officers

Section 1. The officers of the Society shall be a President, a First Vice-president, a Second Vice-president, a Treasurer, one or more Secretaries, and a Recording Secretary. They shall be elected by ballot at each annual meeting.

Sec. 2. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society. In the case of his absence or inability to serve, his duties shall be performed by the Vice-president in attendance who is first in numerical order.

Sec. 3. The Treasurer, the Secretaries, and such officers as the Board of Managers may appoint, shall be subject to the direction of the Board, and shall discharge such duties as may be defined by its regulations and rules of order.

Sec. 4. The Treasurer shall give such security for the faithful performance of his duties as the Board of Managers may direct.

Sec. 5. Each officer shall serve from the close of the annual meeting at which he is elected to the close of the next annual meeting, and until his successor is elected.

Article III. Board of Managers

Section 1. The Board of Managers shall consist of twenty-seven persons, viz., the officers named in Art. II, Sec. 1, and twenty-one other

persons, elected by ballot at an annual meeting. At the meeting at which these by-laws shall be adopted, one-third of the twenty-one persons shall be elected for one year, one-third for two years, and one-third for three years, to the end that thereafter, as nearly as practicable, one-third of the whole number shall be elected at each subsequent annual meeting to fill the vacancies caused by the expiration of terms of office. As many more shall be elected also as shall be necessary to fill any vacancies in unexpired terms.

Sec. 2. The Board of Managers shall meet at the principal office of the Society to organize as soon as practicable after the annual meeting.

Sec. 3. The Board of Managers shall have the management of the affairs of the Society; shall have the power to elect its own Chairman and Recording Secretary, and to appoint such additional officers and such committees as to it may seem proper, and to define the powers and duties of each; to appoint its own meetings; to adopt such regulations and rules as to it may seem proper, including those for the control and disposition of the real and personal property of the Society, the sale, leasing, or mortgaging thereof, provided they are not inconsistent with its Act of Incorporation or its By-laws; to fill all vacancies in the Board of Managers and in any office of the Society until the next meeting of the Society; to establish such agencies and to appoint and remove such agents and missionaries as to it may seem proper, by a three-fifths vote of all members present and voting at the meeting when said vote is taken; to fix the compensation of officers, agents, and missionaries; to direct and instruct them concerning their respective duties; and to make all appropriations of money. At the annual meeting of the Society, and at the first session of each annual meeting of the Northern Baptist Convention it shall present a printed or written, full and detailed report of the proceedings of the Society and of its work during the year.

Sec. 4. The Board of Managers shall appoint annually one of its members whose term does not expire the current year to act as an additional member of the Committee on Nominations without the right to vote.

Article IV. Eligibility to Appointment

All officers, all members of the Board of Managers, and all missionaries must be members of Baptist churches.

Article V. Annual and Other Meetings

The Society shall meet annually on the third Wednesday in May, unless for some special reason another time shall be fixed by the Board of Managers on conference with the Executive Committee of the Northern Baptist Convention and with representatives of its other cooperating organizations. The meeting shall be held where the annual meeting of the Northern Baptist Convention shall be held. Special meetings may be held at any time and place upon the call of the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE VI. RELATIONS WITH NORTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

SECTION 1. With a view to unification in general denominational matters, the Northern Baptist Convention at each election may present nominations for officers and for the Board of Managers.

SEC. 2. The persons elected each year as the Committee on Nominations of the Northern Baptist Convention shall be for that year the Committee of this Society on Nominations for officers then to be elected.

SEC. 3. The Annual Report of this Society, as soon as it shall be prepared, shall be forwarded to the officer or committee of the Northern Baptist Convention authorized to receive it.

ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS

These by-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at any annual meeting of the Society, provided written notice of the proposed amendment shall have been given at the preceding annual meeting of the Society, or such amendment shall be recommended by the Board of Managers.

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